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CURRICULUM VITAE

I was born in Sweden in 1953 and left for Asia in 1975. I spent 1975-79 travelling in the Asia-Pacific region (the Middle East, the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, Hongkong, Japan, Australia and New Zealand) but I have been living permanently in Thailand since December 1979, working as a journalist and author. I was a free-lance journalist until March 1988, when I was employed by the *Far Eastern Economic Review* of Hongkong (for which I began writing on a free-lance basis in 1982) as its Burma correspondent. Later, I also covered a range of other issues for the *Review* such as organized crime, ethnic and political insurgencies, and regional security. After the *Review* was closed down in November 2004, I began working as a senior analyst for *Jane's Information Group* in the USA. Since 1995 I have also been the East Asia correspondent for the Swedish daily *Svenska Dagbladet*, and from 1995 to 2003 the Southeast Asia correspondent for *Politiken* of Denmark. I served as President of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand (FCCT) from January 1993 to January 1995.

In 1985, I and my wife Hseng NOUNG, an ethnic Shan from Burma, headed out on an 18-month, 2,275-kilometer overland journey from northeastern India across Burma's

northern rebel-held areas to China. Traveling by foot, jeep, bicycle, and elephant, we became the first outsiders in over four decades to cross that isolated area, when then was controlled by various ethnic insurgents. This journey was chronicled in my book LAND OF JADE, which has been published in English, Danish and Manipuri (see below, “Books”).

Since then, I have won three research grants from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The first grant (1992-93) enabled me to write BURMA IN REVOLT, and second grant (1997-98) paid for my book, BLOOD BROTHERS: CRIME, BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN ASIA. The third grant was for writing a book about illegal migration from China: WORLD WIDE WEB; CHINESE MIGRATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY AND HOW IT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD (published in Korean and in English in 2012). In 2004, I received an award for excellence in reporting about North Korea from the Society of Publishers in Asia. In 2005, Silkworm Books in Chiang Mai published GREAT LEADER, DEAR LEADER: DEMYSTIFYING NORTH KOREA UNDER THE KIM CLAN, which outlines the regime’s ideology and how the Kim Clan exercises power. In 2007, a South Korean publishing house published (in Korean) AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA’S STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY, a biography of the leader of Burma’s pro-democracy movement, which was also published in English in 2012 and in Burmese 2013. My most recent book is GREAT GAME EAST: INDIA, CHINA AND THE STRUGGLE FOR ASIA’S MOST VOLATILE FRONTIER (about Northeastern India and adjacent areas). For other books and conference papers, see my website www.asiapacificms.com

Employment History

Employer:

Dates:

Position:

Far Eastern Economic Review	1988-2004	Correspondent
Politiken	1995-2003	Southeast Asia correspondent
Svenska Dagbladet	1995-	East Asia correspondent

Free-Lance Writing (from 1973 onwards):

Articles have appeared in the following newspapers and magazines:

USA

Wall Street Journal (daily)
Washington Post (daily)
International Herald Tribune (daily)
The Los Angeles Times (daily)
New York Times Book Review (weekly supplement to the New York Times)
Politico magazine
The Revealer
Reader's Digest (monthly)
World Paper (monthly)
Current History (monthly)
Talk magazine (monthly)
Yale Global Online
Foreign Policy
Foreign Affairs
Nieman Reports
NKNews.org (website focused on North Korea)

UNITED KINGDOM

The World Today (Chatham House monthly)

The Independent (daily)

Jane's Defence Weekly

The Sunday Telegraph

Mail on Sunday/Night and Day (weekly)

Jane's Intelligence Review (monthly)

International Defense Review (monthly)

Critical Asian Studies (quarterly)

Global Crime

Boundary and Security Bulletin (International Boundaries Research Unit)

The Bulletin of the Friends of Jade

Arabia (monthly)

Oxford Analytica Daily Briefs

AUSTRALIA

Sydney Morning Herald (daily)

The Australian (daily)

Financial Review (Weekend Review)

Asia-Pacific Magazine

Asian Studies Review

Asian Analysis

Human-Rights Defender (Amnesty International Australia)

HONG KONG

Far Eastern Economic Review (weekly)

Asia Times Online (daily, website)

Finance Asia (monthly)

Asia Literary Review (quarterly)

Journal of Oriental Studies

INDIA

The Times of India (daily)

Seven Sisters Post (daily)

India Today (fortnightly)

Economic and Political Weekly

Tehelka (weekly)

Outlook (weekly)

The Week (weekly)

Look East (Monthly)

China Report

South Asian Survey

India & Global Affairs (quarterly)

THAILAND

Bangkok Post (daily)

The Nation (daily)

Thailand Times (daily)

Journal of the Siam Society (yearly)

Manager (monthly)

Metro Bangkok (monthly)

Focus (monthly)

Business in Thailand (monthly)

ASEAN Investor (monthly)

Look East (monthly)

Guidelines (monthly)

Gemological Digest

BURMA (MYANMAR)

Seven Day Daily

Irrawaddy

JAPAN

Asia-Pacific Journal (website)

The Japan Economic Journal (daily)

AERA (Asahi Shimbun Extra Report and Analysis; weekly magazine)

Sapio (weekly magazine)

Tokyo Journal (monthly magazine)

Playboy (Japan)

SOUTH KOREA

Hankyoreh Shinmum (daily)

Hankyoreh 21 (weekly)

Global Asia (quarterly)

SWEDEN

Svenska Dagbladet (daily)

Uppsala Nya Tidning (daily)

Falu-Kuriren (daily)

Kommunalarbetaren (weekly)

Statsanställd (weekly)

Fackläraren (weekly)

Broderskap (weekly)

Folket i Bild (fortnightly)

Populär Historia (monthly)

Axess (monthly)

NEO (monthly)
ELLE (monthly)
Zäta (monthly)
Frihet (monthly)
Skolvärlden (monthly)
SIDA Rapport
OmVärlden (SIDA)
Kina Rapport
Internationella Studier
Alkohol och Narkotika
Sydasien
Scanorama

NORWAY

Stavanger Aftenblad (daily)
Development Today (website and weekly newsletter)
Ny Tid (weekly)
Utvikling (monthly)

DENMARK

Politiken (daily)
Information (daily)
Weekendavisen (weekly)
Kontakt
Udkig

FINLAND

Suomen Kuvalehti (weekly)

GERMANY

Die Tageszeitung (daily)

Der Überblick (quarterly)

Der Spiegel Reporter (monthly)

ITALY

Corriere della Serra (weekly magazine)

Grazia (monthly magazine)

FRANCE

Le Figaro

Geopolitical Drugdispatch (monthly newsletter from Observatoire
Géopolitique des Drogues)

Courrier International

the NETHERLANDS

NRC Handelsblad (daily)

BELGIUM

Vivant Univers (quarterly)

Alternatives Internationales

SWITZERLAND

DU Magazine (monthly)

Das Magazin (weekly)

NEPAL

Himal

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh Post (fortnightly)

SINGAPORE

Contemporary Southeast Asia

MALAYSIA

The EDGE Review

INDONESIA

The Jakarta Globe (daily)

BRUNEI

Muhibah

CYPRUS

Global Dialogue

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Penguin News (weekly)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES

United Press International (UPI)

Deutsche Presse-Agentur (DPA)

Reports and interviews have been aired on the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC), Radio Australia, the American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), National Public Radio (USA), Voice of America

(VOA), Christian Science Monitor Radio (USA), Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), Swiss Broadcasting Corporation, Radio France International, Deutsche Welle, Radio Netherlands, Vatican Radio, Radio Sweden, Radio Norway, Radio Finland and Radio Hong Kong.

Interviews and documentaries have been shown by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Cable News Network (CNN), Al-Jazeera, the American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), the CNN Television Agency (USA), Christian Science Monitor Television (USA), the Australian Broadcasting Commission, Swedish Television, Norwegian Television, Danish Television, Netherlands Television, the South African Broadcasting Corporation, and Thai Television (Channel 9 and Thai PBS).

CONSULTANCIES:

In addition to writing articles for various newspapers, magazines and periodicals, I have also been a consultant for the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (evaluations of grant applications), Radio Free Asia (evaluations of its Burmese and Lao language services), the British Broadcasting Corporation (an evaluation of the BBC's Burmese language service), the Danish International Development Agency, DANIDA (a survey of mass media organisations and journalists' associations in Southeast Asia), the Southeast Asian Press Alliance (a report on the Burmese media in the country and in exile), and Jane's Information Group (reports on North Korea, Iran, China, and defence- and proliferation-related issues).

BOOKS:

OUTRAGE: Burma's Struggle for Democracy (Review Publishing Company, Hong Kong, 1989. 270 pages. Second edition, White Lotus UK, 1990. 208 pages. (A Burmese translation was published in 1990 by Peacock Press: *Domanhong -- Bamapyi Dimokresi tatpwe* . 268 pages; a second, updated Burmese edition was published in 2013 in Rangoon by Lwin Oo Sarpay, 364 pages). About the 1988 uprising for democracy in Burma.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BURMA (Cornell University Press, Ithaca, USA, 1990. 111 pages; published in Burmese by Lwin Oo Sarpay, Rangoon, 2013, 208 pages). A history of Burma's communist movement from 1939 to 1990 (a second, updated Burmese edition was published in 2013 in Rangoon by Lwin Oo Sarpay, 208 pages).

LAND OF JADE: A Journey through Insurgent Burma (Kiscadale, the UK, 1990. 315 pages). This book describes my wife's and my 18-month trek through northern Burma in 1985-1987. Second edition, [Land of Jade: A Journey from India through Northern Burma to China] White Orchid, Thailand, 1996. 380 pages. (Manipuri translation, SLKH Meitei, RK Singh, Imphal, India, January 2006). South Asian edition by Spectrum Publications, Guwahati, India, 2011. 440 pages (Land of Jade: A Journey from North East India through Northern Burma to China), and Land of Jade: A Journey from India through Northern Burma to China, Orchid Books, Bangkok, second edition, 2011. 450 pages.

REJSEN TIL JADELANDET (in Danish; Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke, Denmark, 1989. 432 pages). A Danish translation of *Land of Jade*.

BURMA IN REVOLT: Opium and Insurgency Since 1948 (Westview, Boulder, Colorado, 1994. 515 pages). A study of Burma's ethnic conflict and the Golden Triangle opium trade. Second revised and updated edition, Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, 1999. 558 pages. Reprinted in 2003 and 2011.

THE KACHIN: LORDS OF BURMA'S NORTHERN FRONTIER (Teak House, Chiang Mai, 1998, 258 pages). About the history and culture of the Kachin people of northern Burma.

BLOOD BROTHERS: CRIME, BUSINESS AND POLITICS IN ASIA

About organized crime in the Asia-Pacific region. (Allen & Unwin, Sydney, Australia, 2002, 470 pages).

GREAT LEADER, DEAR LEADER: DEMYSTIFYING NORTH KOREA UNDER THE KIM CLAN About North Korea, the regime's ideology and how the Kim Clan exercises power. (Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, 2005, 274 pages).

AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA'S STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY (in Korean); (Asia Network/Prunsoop, Seoul 2007, 336 p.)

THAILAND: MER ÄN SOL OCH STRÄNDER (IN SWEDISH); (Bilda Förlag, Stockholm, 2008, 207 p.)

MERCHANTS OF MADNESS: THE METHAMPHETAMINE EXPLOSION IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE (with Michael Black) (Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, 2009, 180 p.)

AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA'S STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY. A portrait of Aung San Suu Kyi and her role in Burma's pro-democracy movement (Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, 2011, 196 p., also published in Burmese in Rangoon in 2013.)

WORLD.WIDE.WEB: CHINESE MIGRATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY – AND HOW IT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD. With focus on the Russian Far East, the Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia. (Orchid Books, Bangkok, 2012. 190 p.)

CHINA BROTHERS (World.Wide.Web in Korean; Asia Network/Prunsoop, Seoul 2012, 288 p.)

GREAT GAME EAST: INDIA, CHINA AND THE STRUGGLE FOR ASIA'S MOST VOLATILE FRONTIER. About India, China and India's Northeast, northern Burma and Tibet (Harper Collins India, New Delhi, 2012, 442 p.)

BURMAS HISTORIA. (A History of Burma) In Swedish (Historiska Media, Lund, Sweden, 2014, 304 p.)

AUDIO CD:

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE (The World's Political Hot Spots, Knowledge Products/Blackstone, USA, 1992; narrated by Richard C. Hottel)

BOOKLETS:

AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA'S UNFINISHED RENAISSANCE (Monash University, Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Working Paper No 64, Melbourne, Australia. 28 pages). The first and so far the only biography of Burma's most prominent opposition leader.

AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA'S UNFINISHED RENAISSANCE (Peacock Press, UK, 1990. 34 pages). As above [another edition]. Second edition: White Lotus, Bangkok 1991.)

CROSS-BORDER DRUG TRADE IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE (Territory Briefing Number 1, International Boundaries Research Unit, University of Durham, England, 1991. 66 pages). An overview of the Golden Triangle drug trade and related border issues.

THE POLITICS OF THE DRUG TRADE IN BURMA (Occasional Paper No. 33, Indian Ocean Centre for Peace Studies, University of Western Australia, Perth, 1993. 63 pages).

OPIUM (in Danish; Gyldendal, Denmark, 1982. 56 pages). A school textbook about opium.

GYLLENE TRIANGELN: Opium och Krig (in Swedish; the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 1981. 32 pages). A brief account of "Opium and war in the Golden Triangle".

THE SHANS AND THE SHAN STATES OF BURMA (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, March 1984. 48 pages)

BURMA (in Swedish; the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 1989. 32 pages)

THAILAND (in Swedish; the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 1989. 32 pages)

KAMBODJA (in Swedish; the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 1989. 24 pages)

FILIPPINERNA: NYTT HOPP FÖR ASIENS SJUKE MAN (in Swedish; the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, 2013. 32 pages). About the Philippines.

BOOK CHAPTERS:

MIRAKLET I ASEAN: Fup eller fakta? (in Danish; co-author; six chapters out of 21 written by Bertil Lintner; Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke, Denmark, 1984).

DEN TREDJE VERDEN (1989-90) (in Danish; Yearbook, Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke, Denmark. Cambodia chapter)

INTERNATIONALIZATION OF ETHNIC CONFLICT (edited by K.M. de Silva and R.J. May, Pinter Publishers, London, 1991: Burma chapter: “The Internationalisation of Burma’s Ethnic Conflict”).

JAPAN IN ASIA (edited by Nigel Holloway, Review Publishing, Hong Kong, 1991. Burma chapter: “The Odd Couple”)

WAR ON DRUGS: STUDIES IN THE FAILURE OF US NARCOTICS POLICY (edited by Alfred W. McCoy and Alan A. Block; Westview Press: Boulder, San Francisco and Oxford, 1992. Burma chapter: “Heroin and Highland Insurgency in the Golden Triangle”).

POPULATIONS IN DANGER (edited by François Jean; John Libbey/Médecins Sans Frontieres: London, 1992. Burma chapter)

LA PLANETE DES DROGUES (edited by Alain Labrousse and Alain Wallon, Éditions du Seuil, Paris, 1993. Burma chapter: “Birmanie: l’opium, vainqueur du peuple”).

DEMOCRACY IN ASIA: ITS PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS (Burma chapter, Asia-Pacific Peace Press, South Korea, 1995. Edited by Corazon Aquino, Oscar Arias, Kim Dae-jung).

BURMA/MYANMAR IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY, DYNAMICS OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE (Thai Studies Section, Chulalongkorn University's

Institute for Strategic and Security Studies, 1996. Edited by John J. Brandon. Chapter: “Drugs, Insurgency, and Counterinsurgency in Burma”).

ÅRET I FOKUS 1995 (in Swedish; co-author; East Asia chapter written by Bertil Lintner; Norstedts Förlag and Bokförlaget Bra Böcker, Sweden, 1996).

BURMA: PROSPECTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC FUTURE, edited by Robert I. Rotberg (Brooking Institution Press, Washington DC, 1998; Chapter 9: “Drug and Economic Growth: Ethnicity and Exports”).

LANDET MED DE ULYKKELIGE SMIL: KAMPEN FOR ET DEMOKRATISKT BURMA (in Danish; two chapters, “Demokratibevægelse i håndjern” and “Narkotikakongernes paradis”; Den Danske Burma Komite, Copenhagen 1998).

INDIAN AND CHINESE FOREIGN POLICIES IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE, Edited by Surjit Mansingh (Nehru Memorial Museum and Library/Radiant Publishers, New Delhi 1998; Chapter 20: “Burma and Its Neighbours”).

COMMUNITIES: BURMA (MYANMAR). In *The Encyclopedia of the Chinese Overseas*, edited by Lynn Pan, 140-143. Singapore: Chinese Heritage Centre, 1998.

DRUGS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN BURMA. In *Burma/Myanmar: Strong Regime Weak State?* Edited by Morten B. Pedersen, Emily Rudland and R.J. May. Adelaide, Crawford House Publishing, 2000.

BURMA: DEADLY DENIALS. In *Drugs, Death, Disease: Reporting on AIDS in Southeast Asia*. Edited by Cecile C.A. Balgos, Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism and the United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Organization, Manila, 2001.

MYANMAR/BURMA. In *Ethnicity in Asia*. Edited by Colin Mackerras. Routledge/ Curzon, London and New York, 2003.

RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM AND NATIONALISM IN BANGLADESH. In *Religious Radicalism and Security in South Asia*. Edited by Satu P. Limaye, Robert G. Wirsing and Mohan Malik. The Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, Honolulu, 2004.

ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM IN BANGLADESH. In *Bangladesh: Treading the Taliban Trail*. Edited by Jaideep Saikia, Vision Books, New Delhi, 2006.

DIASPORAS IN CHINA'S SECURITY STRATEGY. In *Ethnic Diasporas & Great Power Strategies in Asia*. Edited by Robert G. Wirsing and Rouben Azizian; India Research Press & Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2007.

THE STAYING POWER OF THE BURMESE MILITARY REGIME. In *Between Isolation and Internationalization: The State of Burma*. Edited by Johan Lagerkvist. The Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Stockholm, 2008.

THE SOUTH PACIFIC: CHINA'S NEW FRONTIER. In *Looking North, Looking South: China, Taiwan, and the South Pacific*. Edited by Anne-Marie Brady. New Jersey: World Scientific, 2010.

BIRMANIE: CONCESSION TACTIQUE OU DÉBUT DE DÉMOCRATISATION? In *État des résistances dans le Sud*. Paris: Centre Tricontinental et Éditions Syllepse, 2012.

INDIA'S NORTHEAST IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD. In *Souvenir: 1st North East India Top of the World Mt Everest Expedition 2013*. Imphal: The Manipur Mountaineering and Trekking Association, 2013.

STEN BERGMAN I KOREA 1935-36. In *Sten Bergman: Kamtjakta, Kurilerna, Korea och Nya Guinea* (ed. by Jens Sucksdorff, Votum Förlag, Sweden, 2013).

THE TRADE IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS AND CONTRABAND IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA. In *An Atlas of Trafficking in Southeast Asia: The Illegal Trade in Arms, Drugs, People, Counterfeit Goods and Natural Resources in Mainland Southeast Asia*. Edited by Pierre-Arnaud Chouvy. London and New York: I.B. Tauris & Co., 2013.

THE ASIA YEARBOOK (Review Publishing, Hongkong. Burma chapters, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002. Laos chapters, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002. Bhutan chapters, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002. Cambodia chapters 2000, 2001, 2002).

ALL-ASIA GUIDE (Review Publishing, Hongkong). Burma chapters, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997. Laos chapter 1995, 1997. Bhutan chapter 1997.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore). Laos chapter 2001, 2003, 2008.