

## Grantee information

**Name of Grantee:** Ms. Patporn Phoothong (API Fellow batch 11)

Patporn Phoothong is currently a researcher and coordinator at The Initiative of Museum and Library for Peace in Thailand. Her areas of interest include peace education, the peace and war museum, cultural anthropology and democratization, and history. Patporn has also written articles on the peace museum and collective memories for newsletters and magazines in Thailand and Japan.

**Collaborators:** Ms. Narumol Thammapruxsa, Mr. Wayhudi and Mr. Ekraj Sabur  
Narumol (Kop) Thammapruxsa

Kop is a performer, theater director, producer, cultural worker, and social arts activist. Her focus has been on using theater and creative dance as tools for social activism. She co-founded the International WOW Company, which emphasizes intercultural exchange through dance and theater. She has played different roles--director, playwright, and/or performer--in many collaborative dance/theater projects. These projects include several works during her residency program at UCLA Asia Pacific Performance Exchange (APPEX), Noda Hideki's *AKAONI*, the Setagaya Public Theatre's Asian Theatre Collaboration's project *Hotel Grand Asia*, and the Singapore-based Necessary Stage company's *Mobile*. Several of Kop's writings concerned with arts and the social movement have been published in *Pacarayasara* magazines. Her script *He-Me-She-It* was staged in Taiwan and the Philippines, while *Sound of the Ocean* was re-staged thrice in Taiwan by Spring Wind, a well-known Khao Hsiung-based theatre group.

Kop was an Asian Cultural Council (ACC) grantee to America in 1999 and an Asian Public Intellectual (API) fellow in Japan and Indonesia in 2008 for her research on "Artist and Their Roles in Creating a Living City".

Her research "Building a Culture of Peace through Aikido" received an award from the Faculty of Humanity, Chiang Mai University for Best Independent Study 2012. In May 2012, Kop presented a research paper on "Understanding 'the Others' through Cultural Development: The Case of Intercultural Theatre Collaboration in South East Asia" (2012) at the Fifth South-South Summer Institute, Rethinking Development: Global and Regional Alternatives for the Development in the South, Recife, Brazil. Recently, Kop finished her seven-month Campus Asia Student Exchange Program at Osaka University with her research topic "Healing the Past – Working toward the Future: The Roles of Creative Approaches in Reconciliation and Peace Building". Currently, Kop is completing her Ph.D. program on peacebuilding at Payap University.

Wayhudi

Wayhudi is a researcher at the Research Center for Society and Culture, Indonesian Institute of Science (PMB-LIPI). He completed his postgraduate studies in Cultural Studies Departemen at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta (2008) and in International Peace Studies at the University for Peace, Costa Rica (2010), sponsored by Nippon Foundation. He joined the fellowship program of the Asian Public Intellectuals (2011-20120) sponsored by Nippon Foundation, which allowed him to conduct his research "Remembering the Legacies of Marcos Dictatorship: The Formation of Historical Memory and the Struggle of Justice in the Philippines". Some of his articles have been published in Bahasa Indonesia, among them "Stereotif Orang

Betawi dalam Sinetron” in the *Journal of Masyarakat dan Budaya* PMB-LIPI, 2012; “Mengintip Kebangkitan China Melalui Olah Raga” in the *Journal of Maarif*, volume 6, No.2 November 2011; and “Mematah Banatalitas Kekerasan” in the *Journal Maarif*, Volume 5, No.2 December, 2010. He also published a book on the politic of memory, *Menggadaikan Ingatan: Politisasi Islah di Kalangan Korban dalam Tragedi Tanjung Priok*, 1984, in Syarikat Indonesia (2009).

#### **Ekraj Sabur**

Ekraj Sabur is an activist committed to peace, human rights, and social justice issues. He obtained his first degree in Asia Pacific Studies from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan; and his Master of Philosophy in International Peace, Conflict, and Development Studies from the UNESCO Chair of Philosophy for Peace, Universitat Jaume I in Spain. He has written a number of articles on peace and development topics. He was engaged in development work and peace building efforts through capacity building and grassroots outreach programs in Asia and the Middle East in the past decade. He is a founder and was the first coordinator of the Youth Coordination Centre International founded in 1997. He served as the first regional director of the Asian Interfaith Network on AIDS (AINA) formed in 2006. Currently, he is the director of the International Institute of Peace Studies cohosted by the Asian Resource Foundation (ARF) and the Asian Muslim Action Network (AMAN). These platforms have allowed him to travel extensively to facilitate dialogue among people of diverse backgrounds, in an effort to bridge gaps, coordinate strategies, and foster cooperation so as to achieve the common goals of sustainable peace and development.

#### **Project title:**

Hearing Historical Voices: Oral Histories of Political Violence in Southeast Asia, Connecting Past Violence, the Present Situation, and Future Justice

#### **Abstract:**

The violence of the past as a collective memory is a communication process; it is one of the key elements of socio-political activities. The participatory action research project “Hearing Historical Voices: Oral Histories of Political Violence in Southeast Asia, Connecting Past Violence, the Present Situation and Future Justice” aims to present the oral histories of victims’ families and others involved in political violence in Thailand and Indonesia, from a comparative perspective. The project will focus on the Southeast Asian region and on particular case studies involving the 6 October 1976 student massacre in Thailand and the Muslim killings during the Suharto regime in 1989, better known as the Talang Sari tragedy. It is expected that the main findings would raise the capacity of society to confront its traumatic experiences of past violence directly and openly, since moving forward into the future involves not forgetting or distorting the past, but actually remembering, questioning, and seeking justice.

#### **Deliverables:**

1. Research report on oral histories of past traumatic experiences of political violence.
2. Art and documentary film and photographs (Thailand only).
3. Peace exhibitions on the main findings of the oral histories in Indonesia and Thailand.

4. Seminars and exchanges on topics related to the main findings and based on the present situation.
5. Training for exhibition volunteers.
6. Online archive and online peace exhibition.
7. Workshop for history teachers.
8. Dialogue between state and victims and their families (Thailand only).

**Outputs:**

The anticipated outputs of this participatory action research project are as follows

*First Phase*

1. Research report on the oral histories of past traumatic experiences of political violence.
2. Art and documentary film and photographs (Thailand only)
3. Peace exhibitions on the main findings of the oral histories in Indonesia and Thailand;
  - 3.1 Seminars and exchanges on topics related to the main findings and based on the present situation
  - 3.2 Training for exhibition volunteers
4. Online archive/ online peace exhibition

*Second Phase*

1. Workshop for history teachers
2. Dialogue between the state, and the victims and their families (Thailand only)