

NCKU-EFEO International Conference

**Buried in Jars: Earthenware Containers and Mortuary Practices
in Taiwan and the Philippines**

臺灣與菲律賓的史前甕棺葬

Friday, November 12, 2021

Institute of Archaeology, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), Tainan, Taiwan

organized by LIU Yi-chang (NCKU), Frank MUYARD (EFEO/NCU)
& Aude FAVEREAU (NCKU)

The conference will be held onsite & online

Earthenware burial containers, also known as burial jars, are ceramics used to place and/or store human remains. They may be used to bury dead persons -whether infants or adults- or as secondary burial urns. Burying deceased in jars is a practice attested across Taiwan and Southeast Asia, and in particular the Philippines, from the Neolithic to the Metal Age period (circa 500 BCE – CE 500). Burial jars are found in various environments and contexts: in open air sites and caves/rock-shelters; within dedicated cemeteries and in areas used for domestic activities. Jar burial practices inter-relate pottery-making traditions and knowledge on the one hand, and customs of specific society on the other hand, which particularly connect to the mental sphere, belief, and cosmology of their culture. This gives jar burial studies a unique position to examine the entanglements of prehistoric Taiwan and the Philippines, as it involves artefacts, mortuary practices and cultural discourse. Some researchers have been focusing on bioarchaeological evidence, others tackled the ways mortuary rituals are expressed, and others have been dedicated to the jars themselves. Although during the Metal Age, some of the sites yielding burial jars from various areas in Taiwan and the Philippines were likely in contact, little large-scale comparative research has been conducted. This conference aims at gathering scholars conducting research on burial jars in Taiwan and the Philippines to facilitate regional comparisons and discuss human behaviors when facing death and taking care of the deceased. The conference should allow to better characterize regional patterns and localized developments.

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Conference Program

- 9:00-9:30 Registration
- 9:30-9:45 **Opening remarks**
LIU Yi-chang (National Cheng Kung University) & Frank MUYARD (EFEO/NCU)
- 9:45-10:45 **Keynote Speech 1**
Chair: CHEN Kwang-tzoo (Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica)
Eusebio Z. DIZON (University of the Philippines Diliman)
Burial Jars in the Philippines and Taiwan
- 10:45-11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00-12:00 **Keynote Speech 2**
Chair: Mary-Jane Louise A. BOLUNIA (National Museum of the Philippines)
LIU Yi-chang (NCKU)
Prehistoric Burial Jars in Taiwan: Chronology and Cultural Affiliations
- 12:00-13:15 Lunch
- 13:15-14:45 **Panel 1 – Late Neolithic & Metal Age Burial Jars Traditions in Taiwan**
Chair: Frank MUYARD (EFEO/NCU)
1.1. CHIANG Chih-hua (National Taiwan University)
The Jar Burials at the Wansan site, Neolithic Taiwan
1.2. CHAO Chin-yung (Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica) & CHUNG Kuo-feng (National Cheng Kung University)
Eastern Taiwan Neolithic Burial Jar Traditions
1.3. CHEN Kwang-tzoo (IHP, Academia Sinica)
Jar Burial Practice in Prehistoric Taiwan and its Correlation with Northern Philippines Cases
- 14:45-15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00-17:00 **Panel 2 – Burial Jars in the Philippines and Southeast Asia during the Metal Age**
Chair: David COHEN (National Taiwan University)
1.1. Anna PINEDA (University of the Philippines Diliman)
Overview of Archaeological Jar Burials in the Philippines: Implications for Understanding Shared Burial Practices in the Region and Island Southeast Asia

1.2. Nida T. CUEVAS (National Museum of the Philippines)
Memorializing the Dead: Looking at Anthropomorphic Styles of Jar Burials in the Philippines

1.3. Alexandra DE LEON (National Museum of the Philippines)
Community Identities in the Bacong Region, Central Philippines: A New Approach Using Jar Burial Remains

1.4. Aude FAVEREAU (National Cheng Kung University)
Co-authors: Bérénice Bellina, Laure Dussubieux, Helen Lewis, Emily Miyama, Kalayar Myat Myat Htwe, Victor Paz, Rasmi Shoocongdej, Mariko Yamagata
New Evidence of Contacts between the Thai-Malay Peninsula, Vietnam, and the Philippines: the "Black-and-Red Jars"

- 17:00-17:30 **Round-Table**
Chairs: Victor J. PAZ (University of the Philippines Diliman) & CHAO Chin-yung (IHP, Academia Sinica)
- 17:30-17:40 **Closing remarks**

Conference Website: <https://bit.ly/nckuefeoburialjars>

Registration (limited number of participants): [click here](#)

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Sponsored by

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