

Informal Northern Thai Group Bulletin

February 16, 2014

1. MINUTES OF THE 370TH INTG MEETING: JANUARY 14, 2014 - "PAUL DOUMER AND FRENCH INDOCHINA, 1897-1902". A TALK BY AMAURY LORIN.
2. NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, "FOLLOWING BUDDHA'S FOOTPRINTS (*BUDDHAPĀDA*)". A TALK BY JACQUES DE GUERNY.
3. HOW TO READ JASON LUBANSKI COMPLETE PAPER ON LAND REFORM IN THAILAND.
4. MAILING PROBLEMS.
5. FUTURE INTG MEETINGS.
6. INTG CONTACTS: CONVENOR, SECRETARY, WEBSITE.

1. MINUTES OF THE 370TH INTG MEETING: JANUARY 14, 2014

"PAUL DOUMER AND FRENCH INDOCHINA, 1897-1902". A TALK BY AMAURY LORIN

1.1. **PRESENT** : Aurelie Azevedo, Hans Bänziger, Faustine Binet, Jean-Louis Bourtereau, Barbara Brooks, Guy Cardinal, Peter Davey, Leo Ellis, Annelise Etienne, Eric Eustache, Louis Gabaude, Yves Goudineau, Deborah Greenaway, Ivan Hall, Judy Harcourt, Guy Heidelberger, Jody Levy-Swift, Luis Marcon, Monica Meyer, Walter Meyer, Pat Murray, Jacques Op de Laak, Geoff Pimlott, Lorri Pimlott, Carol Stratton, Bob Stratton, Rebecca Weldon, a total of 27 at least.

1.2. The 370th Talk :

"PAUL DOUMER AND FRENCH INDOCHINA, 1897-1902". A TALK BY AMAURY LORIN

Abstract: Based on research in nearly thirty archival centers including newly discovered family archives, as well as field studies in France, Russia and Vietnam, this work sets out to fill an important gap in the history of the French Republic: despite 25,000 roads in France named after Paul Doumer (1857-1932), the thirteenth President of the French Third Republic (1931-1932), no study has yet been dedicated to him. The General-Governor of Indochina (1897-1902) who founded the *École française d'Extrême-Orient*, the only genuine worker's son among the leading elites of the Third Republic, the only teacher among the fourteen Presidents of the Third Republic, one of the few who successively presided over each of the two Chambers but, on the other hand, who did not chair the government or any political party: Paul Doumer's career represents many exceptions. He took an active role on every important political issue from 1887 to 1932, particularly the European colonial expansion in South-East Asia, the creation of an income tax in France, and the reparations due from Germany. Embodying the meritocratic dimension of the French republican model and the ideal of social promotion based on education and individual talent, Paul Doumer's *cursus honorum* to the supreme office is also marked and shaped by tragedy: the Great War costed him the lives of four of his five sons before being himself shot on 6 May 1932 while exercising his duties as President of France. This talk will focus on Paul Doumer's particularly intense mandate in Indochina, 1897-1902.