

Asian Agri-History Foundation

The Asian Agri-History Foundation (AAHF), a non-profit trust, was established and registered in 1994 to facilitate dissemination of information on agricultural history to promote research on sustainable agriculture in the South and Southeast Asia regions. These regions had generally provided food security to their population for several millennia, with only occasional famines in a few limited pockets (due primarily to drought). Farmers in these regions had evolved some of the most sustainable agricultural management technologies suitable for different agroecoregions. In recent years, however, South and Southeast Asia have often been projected as food-deficient regions, where mass-scale starvation could occur in the future despite the fact that modern technologies have been adopted over large areas. Ironically, in the past few years, the sustainability of agriculture by following modern technologies has been questioned. AAHF believes that there is great deal to be learned from the traditional wisdom and the indigenous, time-tested technologies that have sustained the farmers of South and Southeast Asia in the past. An integration of these time-tested technologies with modern agricultural practices would ensure long-term sustainability of agriculture in Asia.

Objectives

- To disseminate information on the history and heritage of agriculture in the South and Southeast Asia regions.
- To stimulate research on the history and heritage of agriculture in Asia with a special focus on South and Southeast Asia.
- To promote environment-friendly, sustainable agriculture (including organic agriculture) based on the knowledge of sustainable agricultural practices gathered in heritage publications on agriculture.

Activities

- Regular publication of **Asian Agri-History**, an international quarterly journal.
- Translation of heritage manuscripts/papers on agriculture into English and other languages and their publication.
- Encouragement and support to research on traditional agriculture through fellowships in universities and other institutions.
- Promotion of Asian agri-history in education.
- Conduct of seminars, conferences, and lectures to promote exchange of information on agricultural heritage and sustainable agriculture and collaboration among interested scholars.

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“The ultimate goal of farming is not the growing of crops, but the cultivation and perfection of human beings.”

- Masanobu Fukuoka

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