SOUTHEAST ASIA

The countries covered in this section include: Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Kalimantan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. See also the two specialized theme bibliographies and the General/Miscellaneous bibliography as they also contain reports dealing with these countries.

Adhyatman, Sumarah and Redjeki Arifin
Sumptuous presentation of beads found in Indonesia, from ancient to modern. In Indonesian and English. See Munan (1996-1997) for a review.

Allen, Jamey D.
Discusses the difficulties in dating beads, the history of glass in the region, and the value of specific beads to the people of particular areas: Formosa, Java/Indonesia, the Philippines, and Palau. The appendix on the origins of heirloom beads is particularly informative.

Ardika, I. Wayan
Excavations at Sembiran on Bali, Indonesia, produced mostly glass beads and most of these were red mutisalah; 1st-2nd centuries AD. Two carnelian and one gold bead were also found.

Over 500 glass, two carnelian, and one gold bead, from excavations at Sembiran on Bali’s north coast. The most common red glass beads are though to have been made in South India.

Baradas, David B.
One of the important trading influences was the mining of gold in the Philippines and many gold beads have been found at archaeological sites. The indigenous bead culture of northern Luzon, especially of the Kalingas, is described in great detail from past to present. A similar description of the mountain people of Mindanao explains the different religions, languages, and uses of beads in these cultures.

**Barretto-Tesoro, Grace**
2003  
Proposes an independent system from ethnographic analogy by which prestige values for burial goods, including beads, can be evaluated from an archaeological perspective.

**Basa, Kishor K.**
1991  
The Westerly Trade of Southeast Asia from c. 400 BC to AD 500 with Special Reference to Glass Beads. Ph.D. dissertation. University of London.  
A comprehensive listing of early glass beads from India and Southeast Asia related to theories of early exchange systems.

1992  

2001  

**Basa, K.K, I.C. Glover, and J. Henderson**
1992  

**Basilia, Pauline A.**
2006  
Philippines.

2012  
This guide provides basic information on how to recover and analyze beads from archaeological sites. It also describes the beads recovered at the Sapilang site in the Philippines.

**Bellina, Bérénice**
2001  
The focus of this study is to reconstruct the patterns of cultural exchange between India and Southeast Asia combining a morphological, morphometrical, and technical analysis of agate and carnelian beads which are among the most ancient evidence of exchange with India.


A survey revealed evidence for intensive trade in glass and stone beads between Thailand and India and Vietnam from the late centuries BCE, as well as the local manufacture of semi-precious stone beads using characteristic Indian techniques.

2003  **Beads, Social Change and Interaction between India and South-East Asia. Antiquity 77(296):285-297.**

Analysis of 1,420 carnelian and agate beads from sites across India and Southeast Asia indicates the exploitation of a number of different sources. It is believed that, in Southeast Asia during the last centuries BC, the finishing of beads through rotary grinding resembled contemporary Indian technology, whereas in the 1st millennium AD, the technology shifted to local production centers which compromised quality in favor of larger scale production by finishing medium or mediocre quality beads in drums.

2007  **Cultural Exchange between India and Southeast Asia: Production and Distribution of Hard Stone Ornaments, Vlc. BC-Vlc. AD. Editions de la Maisondes sciences de l’homme, Paris.**

Chalcedony beads.


Discusses the technological analysis of ornament craft-industries (including beadmaking) that developed in the port-city of Khao Sam Kaeo, Thailand, during the mid-first millennium BC when the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea trade networks interlocked.

**Bellina, Bérénice and Ian C. Glover**

2004  **The Archaeology of Early Contact with India and the Mediterranean World, from the Fourth Century BC to the Fourth Century AD. In Southeast Asia: From Prehistory to History, edited by Peter Bellwood and Ian Glover, pp. 68-89. Routledge, New York.**

Semiprecious stone beads and pendants, and glass beads enter into the discussion. Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia.

**Bellina, Bérénice and Praon Silapanth**


This site in southern Thailand yielded both complete and unfinished/broken stone and glass beads. Some of the latter appear to have been shaped using lapidary techniques.
Bellwood, Peter, Geoffrey Irwin, and Daud Tanudirjo
2019 Lithic and Other Non-Ceramic Artefacts. In The Spice Islands in Prehistory: Archaeology in the Northern Moluccas, Indonesia, edited by Peter Bellwood, pp. 107-119. Terra Australis 50. Illustrates and briefly discusses the monochrome Indo-Pacific beads recovered from the Uattamdi 1 rockshelter on the island of Kayoa.

Bernbaum, Marjorie

Bodhisunthorn, V.

Boonyarit Chaisuwan
2011 Early Contacts between India and the Andaman Coast in Thailand from the Second Century BCE to Eleventh Century CE. In Early Interactions between South and Southeast Asia: Reflections on Cross-cultural Exchange, edited by Pierre-Yves Manguin, A. Mani, and Geoff Wade, pp. 82-111. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. Discusses the glass, stone, and gold beads recovered from Phu Khao Thong, Khuan Luk Pat, and Thung Tuk in Thailand. Of particular interest are the face and mosaic glass beads.

Bronson, Bennet

Brumm, Adam, Michelle C. Langley, Mark W. Moore, Budianto Hakim, Muhammad Ramli, Iwan Sumantri, Basran Burhan, Andi Muhammad Saiful, Linda Siagian, Suryatman, Ratno Sardi, Andi Jusdi, Abdullah, Andi Pampang Mubarak, Hasliana, Hasrianti, Adhi Agus Oktaviana, Shinatria Adhityatama, Gerrit D. van den Bergh, Maxime Aubert, Jian-xin Zhao, Jillian Huntley, Bo Li, Richard G. Roberts, E. Wahyu Saptomo, Yinika Perston, and Rainer Grün
2017 Early Human Symbolic Behavior in the Late Pleistocene of Wallacea. PNAS; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1619013114, accessed 11 April 2017. Late Pleistocene finds at the Leang Bulu Bettue rock-shelter on Sulawesi, Indonesia, include two bead blanks fashioned from the same lower incisor of a pig-deer and a pendant consisting of a bear cuscus phalange with a perforation at its proximal end. Includes information regarding production techniques.

Bulbeck, David, Fadhila Arifin Aziz, Sue O’onnor, Ambra Calo, Jack N. Fenner, Ben Marwick, Jim Feathers, Rachel Wood, and Dyah Prastiningtyas
2016 Mortuary Caves and the Dammar Trade in the Towuti-Route Region, Sulawesi, in an Island Southeast Asian Context. Asian Perspectives 55(2):148-183. Describes the sequence of mortuary practices and associated funerary items in the Towuti-Route region of Sulawesi, Indonesia, during the 1st and 2nd millennia AD in the context of the broad chronology of similar customs documented elsewhere across Island Southeast Asia. Includes a discussion of the glass, stone, shell, and metal beads recovered from several sites.
Bunchar Pongpanich
Colorful book that illustrates many fancy ancient glass beads collected in the Suvarnabhumi region of southern Thailand. The text is in Thai with English in the captions.

Briefly surveys beads recovered from sites in Southeast Asia, primarily in Thailand, and discusses the bead trade with India.

Examines the history of Thai beads during the period from around the 6th-8th centuries to the 14th century.

Bunchar Pongpanich and Parote Singbun
Provides a good and well-illustrated explanation of the Maritime Silk Road from 4,000 years BP to ca. 1800. Beads found at archaeological sites in Thailand provide evidence of maritime trade with India, China, Arabia, Greece, and Rome.

Provides data on the composition of both glass and gold beads recovered from burials dated to the late 2nd century BC. The findings suggest strong links with the Indian subcontinent and Mainland Southeast Asia from the late first millennium BC, some 200 years earlier than previously thought.

Campbell Cole, Barbie
The ancient inhabitants of Myanmar, formerly Burma, utilized beads made from a wide range of materials. They are all generally locally referred to as Pyu beads, named after the people who dominated the region for the first nine centuries of the common era.

The heirloom beads, known respectively as khaji and deo moni, are orange Indo-Pacific beads of a type traded from southeast India (probably Karaikadu) between 200 BC and AD 200. They were found by the Kachin and Naga in ancient graves. The trade that brought these beads to the region operated on a
considerable scale. Ivory and fragrant oils destined for the Mediterranean world were exchanged for Indo-
Pacific beads, cowries, chank shells, and carnelian beads, ornaments still worn by the Kachin and Naga
today. India, Burma.

Capistrano-Baker, Florina H., John Guy, and John Miksic (eds.)
A spectacular publication in full-color that features more than 1,000 gold objects, including necklaces,
that were recovered in the Philippines. Many of the items were found in association with Chinese export
ceramics of the 10th-12th centuries.

Carter, Alison K.
2010  Trade and Exchange Networks in Iron Age Cambodia: Preliminary Results from a Compositional
Presents the results of compositional analysis of glass beads from six Iron Age sites in Cambodia. Using
LA-ICP-MS, it was possible to determine the presence of at least two glass bead-trading networks in
Cambodia during the Iron Age.

2012  Garnet Beads in Southeast Asia: Evidence for Local Production? In *Crossing Borders in
Southeast Asian Archaeology, Selected Papers from the 13th International Conference of the
European Association of Southeast Asian Archaeologists, Berlin,* edited by Mai Lin Tjoa-Bonatz,
Andreas Reinecke, and Dominik Bonatz, pp. 91-114. NUS Press, Singapore.
Focuses on the analysis of two distinct types of garnet beads found at Iron Age sites in Cambodia. SEM
examination and LA-ICP-MS analysis reveal that the two types are distinct from one another.

2013  Trade, Exchange, and Socio-Political Development in Iron Age (500 BC - AD 500) Mainland
Southeast Asia: An Examination of Stone and Glass Beads from Cambodia and Thailand. Ph.D.
Using morphological, contextual, and compositional analysis of agate/carnelian, garnet, and glass beads,
the author identifies distinct patterns in the distribution of stone and glass beads on two different scales:
within individual sites in Cambodia and Thailand, and over time and across the region of mainland
Southeast Asia. Compositional data are also provided.

2015  Beads, Exchange Networks and Emerging Complexity: A Case Study from Cambodia and
Thailand (500 BCE-CE 500). *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 25:733-757, DOI:
10.1017/S0959774315000207.
Examines beads from 12 sites in Cambodia and Thailand. Morphological and compositional analyses
using LA-ICP-MS resulted in the identification of different bead types that were circulated in distinct
exchange networks.

2016  The Production and Exchange of Glass and Stone Beads in Southeast Asia from 500 BCE to the
early second millennium CE: An Assessment of the Work of Peter Francis in Light of Recent
Argues that recent work has largely disproven Francis’ model of bead production and interaction between
South and Southeast Asia. Instead, there appear to have been multiple phases of bead production and
exchange between the two regions, which reflect complex interaction networks between South and
Southeast Asia and within Southeast Asia.
**Carter, Alison and Nancy Beavan**


A variety of glass beads, both drawn and coiled, were encountered in jar burials found on rock ledges in remote portions of southern Cambodia.

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**Carter, Alison Kyra, Barbie Campbell Cole, Quentin Lemasson, and Willemijn van Noord**


Aims to determine the types of glass used to produce the beads and contextualize them within the broader bead exchange taking place within the region.

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**Cayron, Jun G.**


Research tests the hypothesis that the glass beads from the 15th-century Pandanan wreck were made in Sungai Mas, Kedah, Malaysia. A comparative analysis, quantitative, of the stylistic attributes (color and diaphaneity), form attributes (shape and size), and technological attributes (method of manufacture) of the beads from both sites is used to test this hypothesis.

2006 *Stringing the Past: An Archaeological Understanding of Early Southeast Asian Glass Bead Trade*. University of the Philippines Press, Diliman, Quezon City.

The source of thousands of Indo-Pacific type glass beads recovered from the 15th-century Pandanan wreck at Palawan, Philippines, has heretofore not been determined. This book is a significant contribution to our knowledge of glass beads: how they were made, used, and traded in early Southeast Asia.


Discusses the glass and gold beads recovered from archeological sites on Palawan Island, the Philippines, including Ille Cave in the Dewil Valley, El Nido in the Tabon Cave Complex, and the Pandanan shipwreck. The trade routes that probably transported these beads are discussed.

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**Chang, Nigel J.**


In depth study of the ornaments, including beads, recovered from three sites in Thailand ranging in age from 1100-500 BC for the two oldest and AD 300-600 for the most recent. Various materials.

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**Cheah, Hwei-Fe’n**


This article plumbs the rich statistical records of the Straits Settlements (comprising the ports of Singapore, Malacca, and Penang) to examine the changing role of the Straits Settlements from a bead
emporium to a consumer of beads, with Singapore acting as a distribution center for a growing domestic demand for beads.


Chin, Lucas
A part of this article discusses the importance of heirloom beads to the Dayak of Sarawak. Several glass specimens are illustrated.

Civico, A.
A technical analysis of ethnographic Pumtek beads.

Colfer, C.J. Pierce and Juk Along Pelibut
Gives a detailed breakdown of the knowledge traditionally associated with the old beads found among the Kenyah of East Kalimantan, which are identified in the two color plates.

Craig, Jennifer
Investigates the potential of Thailand’s bead production and entrepôt along the Kra Peninsula during the early Ming dynasty, with reference to Zheng He’s knowledge of the Thai coasts and the potential his voyages entered the ports of the Kra Peninsula.

Cuevas, Maharlika A.

DeCorse, Christopher R.

Dossiers Histoire et Archéologie
The wreck of a ship dating to the late 16th or early 17th century found on the Royal Captain Shoals off the coast of the Philippines yielded several varieties of wound glass beads of likely Chinese origin.
Dussubieux, Laure and Bérénice Bellina
Khao Sek, located in the Upper-Thai Peninsula, yielded an impressive quantity of glass waste and ornaments suggesting that glass bracelets and beads were manufactured at the site as early as the 4th c. BCE. This article discusses the recovered material using typological observation as well as elemental analysis using LA-ICP-MS.

Dussubieux, Laure and Thomas Oliver Pryce
Presents a regionally-original combination of elemental and isotopic analyses from glass and copper-base metal grave goods (including glass beads) excavated at a series of Iron Age cemeteries in the Samon Valley of central Myanmar.

Endang Sh. Soekatno
Presents an analysis of the beads from the site of Muara Jambi, Sumatra, Indonesia. In Indonesian.

Ernawan, Yusuf
Presents a preliminary study on the technology of beads uncovered at sites in the Matesih district of Central Java, Indonesia. In Indonesian.

Flecker, Michael
Located in the North Java Sea off the coast of Indonesia, the wreck yielded a number of glass eye beads.

Foong, Eileen Paya and Terry Justin Dit
A fascinating personal story about important old beads owned by one Dyak family. It is an historical look at marriage practices and slavery in Kayan and Kenyah communities.

Fox, Robert B. and Rey A. Santiago

Francis, Peter, Jr.
Ranges in date from Ban Chiang (ca. 3600 BC) to modern amulets.


1989 *Heirloom and Ethnographically Collected Beads in Southeast Asia*. Contributions of the Center for Bead Research 6. Lake Placid, NY. Reports on beads from ethnographic contexts in the Philippines and Sarawak (Borneo), comparing the two regions in regard to their trade, age, and uses.


1990 Beads in the Philippines. *Arts of Asia* 20(6):97-107. Introduces the beads found in the Philippines, both native-made and those (principally stone and glass) received in trade. Many color illustrations.


1990 The Greatest Trade Bead of all Time. *Ornament* 13(3):78-81. On Indo-Pacific glass bead production which started in Arikamedu, India, in the 3rd century BC and spread from South India over Southeast Asia to last for nearly two millennia.

1991 Beads in Indonesia. *Asian Perspectives* 30(2):218-241. While beads found at archaeological sites are the main subject of this article, heirloom beads worn by the native population are also discussed. Data concerning chemical analyses are provided.


With the advent of Christianity and Islam, people stopped burying beads with the dead and began to keep them as heirlooms, but many are now being sold.

An examination of heirloom beads among 14 groups in Southeast Asia, comparing them by age and origin, the rules governing them, and their place in the culture involved; 4 pages of color plates. See DeCorse (1993) for a review.

Old Chinese glass beads and imitation 16th-century European beads reflect the past of an isolated highland people in the Philippines and play a part in their social organization.

Describes and illustrates the beads of the Bontoc people of Mountain Province, northern Luzon, the Philippines.

On the beads and beadwork of the Gad-Dang of the Philippines, important as indicators of ethnic and social groups.

Identifies this term as belonging not to a particular bead, but a group of beads. The valuable ones are *mutiraja* (the kings’ beads; Chinese coil beads); the *mutitanah* and *mutibata* of the lower classes are the older, but more common, Indo-Pacific beads (drawn glass beads).

Concentrates on the major bead types found in Southeast Asia: Indo-Pacific beads; segmented, folded, and mosaic beads; Java beads; and Chinese beads.

2002  *Asia’s Maritime Bead Trade: 300 B.C. to the Present.* University of Hawai‘i Press, Honolulu.
A book with a broad scope. In addition to the production, use, and provenance of beads involved in Asian maritime commerce, this book examines the importance of the bead trade for the economies of the countries involved and provides insights into the lives of its many participants: artisans, mariners, and merchants.

Frape, C.J. (ed.)
Exhibition catalog of 167 entries, including about 30 beads or earrings from Thailand, Vietnam, Taiwan, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Almost all of the material is unprovenanced which clearly raises an issue about the attributions. A graphic “Timeline” of the various cultures adds value.
Gardner, G.B.  

Glover, Ian C.  
1986 *Archaeology in Eastern Timor, 1966-67.* Terra Australis 11. Several sites yielded *Nautilus* beads as well as perforated *Nautilus* discs which likely served as ornaments rather than money. Those found in the rockshelter site of Bui Cero Uato are date to 5500 BP.


Glover, Ian C. and Bérénice Bellina  
2001 Alkaline Etched Beads East of India in the Late Prehistoric and Early Historic Periods. *Bulletin de l’École française d’Extrême-Orient* 88:191-215. Discusses “etched” carnelian and agate beads which likely were made in Harappa (Pakistan) and popular in Southeast Asia during the second half of the 1st millennium BC. Discusses technology, and find sites in Myanmar, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, and China.


2011 Ban Don Ta Phet and Khao Sam Kaeo: The Earliest Indian Contacts Re-Assessed. In *Early Interactions between South and Southeast Asia: Reflections on Cross-Cultural Exchange,* edited by Pierre-Yves Manguin, A. Mani, and Geoff Wade, pp. 17-45. ISEAS, Manohar, Singapore and Delhi. The stone and glass beads recovered from Ban Don Ta Phet, Thailand, suggest that dynamic regional networks had established and sustained relationships with the Indian subcontinent as early as the 4th-2nd centuries BCE. There appears to be evidence for local stone bead manufacture at Khao Sam Kaeo.
Carnelian, agate, and glass beads, including etched beads with Indian parallels; mid-1st millennium AD.

Gordon, Stewart
2008 When Asia was the World: Traveling Merchants, Scholars, Warriors, and Monks who Created the “Riches the East.” Da Capo Press, Cambridge, MA.
The Intan shipwreck in the Java Sea off the coast of Indonesia produced a number of glass eye beads which are attributed to ca. AD 1000 (p. 65).

Haidle, M. and U. Neumann
Reports glass bracelet fragments and beads from the upper Iron Age levels of the Mimot earthwork sites in eastern Cambodia with compositional analyses which suggest an origin for the glass in southern India or southern Vietnam.

Hakim, Budianto
This early Neolithic site produced a green-stone bead made from a rare material – nepheline – which forms in tectonic regions such as Sulawesi (p. 85).

Hammerle, Esme

Hanwong, T.
1985 Artefact Analysis from the Excavation at Ban Tha Kae, Amphoe Muang, Changwat Lopburi. M.A. thesis. Silpakorn University, Bangkok.
Describes glass and stone beads from Ban Tha Kae, an important moated mound in Central Thailand. In Thai.

Hat Bin Hoklai
The small portion of the Melanau population which is pagan, the Melanau Likou, continues the traditional use of the beads that were once ubiquitous among all Melanau. Beads provide protection from malevolent spirits and supernatural powers, and denoted wealth and status within the community.

Higham, Charles and A. Kijngam
This major site in Thailand yielded beads of glass, stone, shell, clay, and gold.


Mostly shell beads.

**Higham, Charles, A. Kijngam, and S. Talbot**


Discusses the glass, stone, shell, and gold beads recovered from two large, moated prehistoric settlements in Nakhon Ratchasima province, northeast Thailand. Excavations revealed a cultural sequence that began in the late Bronze Age, followed by four mortuary phases covering the Iron Age.

**Higham, Charles and R. Thosarat**


The recovered shell beads are well discussed.

2014  *The Excavation of Nong Nor: A Prehistoric Site in Central Thailand.* Fine Arts Department of Thailand, Bangkok.

Describes beads of shell, stone, and clay.

**Hudson, Bob**


Discusses stone beads from Burmese sites including carnelian tiger beads.


The people of the Pre-Urban Period loved beads, including carnelian and agate beads which appeared in increasing numbers from around 500 BC. From around 200 BC, particularly in the Samon Valley, many people owned carnelian tiger beads that were based on bronze tally tigers of China’s Qin Dynasty.

**Hung, Hsiao-chun and Yoshiyuki Iizuka**


Discusses the beads of green nephrite, Mindoro muscovite, and quartz schist found at several sites in the northern Philippines. They date to the Late Neolithic and Iron ages.

**Iizuka, Yoshiyuki**


Reports on SEM-EDS analysis of not only glass beads, but copper and stone (agate) as well.
Ikehara-Quebral, Rona
Beads of glass, garnet, carnelian, and gold were found with a few burials.

Indraningsih, Ratna
Presents a basic discussion of the glass, stone, shell, fossil dentalium, and gold beads found at seven sites in Indonesia. Some compositional data are provided. A lack of illustrations is a drawback.

Ipoi Datan
1993 Archaeological Excavations at Gua Sireh (Serian) and Lubang Angin (Gunung Mulu National Park), Sarawak, Malaysia. Sarawak Museum Journal XLV(66). Special Monograph 6.
These two sites produced a small but varied collection of beads, including glass, stone, shell, bone, metal, and ceramic specimens. The beads from Gua Sireh were deposited at some time in the past 2000 years, while those from Lubang Angin are believed to date between 1000 BC and AD 500.

Presents an overview of sites in Sarawak, from prehistoric to historic, where beads have been found. Good descriptions of the types of bead excavated, including beads from animal bone and teeth.

Källén, Anna
This site in Laos occupied ca. 1,500 years ago produced a variety of monochrome glass beads.

Kanjanjuntorn, Podjanok
A burial attributed to the late Metal Age was accompanied by agate and monochrome glass beads.

Kanungo, Alok Kumar (ed.)
2017 Stone Beads of South and Southeast Asia: Archaeology, Ethnography and Global Connections. Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar.
This is the most comprehensive book on stone beads. With contributions from 25 leading scholars, the book dwells on related matter from ancient as well as modern India and other regions of Asia. The individual papers are listed elsewhere in this bibliography.
Karklins, Karlis
Describes the glass and brass beads found on the wreck of a Dutch ship bound from Amsterdam to Batavia (Indonesia) and found by divers off the coast of Scotland.

Labbe, Armand J.
Exhibition catalog over half of which is devoted to bronze artifacts while the rest shows beads and pottery.

Lam Thi My Dzung
Unillustrated descriptions (p. 22) of 2,123 beads and ornaments of glass, agate, carnelian, rock crystal, and gold (2 pieces) from Iron Age jar burials near Hoi An town on the coast of Central Vietnam.

2009 Sa Huynh Regional and Inter-Regional Interactions in the Thu Bon Valley, Quang Nam Province, Central Vietnam. *Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Bulletin* 29:68-75.
Beads of gold, glass, carnelian, and agate were found in burial jars at Lai Nghi (3rd century BC to the 1st century AD). Compositional analyses are reported for the glass beads.

Langley, Michelle C. and Sue O’Connor
The beads studied demonstrate that early Island Southeast Asian societies produced the same kinds of symbolic material culture as that of the more intensively studied African/Eurasian region, and that limited sampling and poor recovery methods have biased perspectives regarding this region.

Investigates the evidence for red ochre use in the study area with emphasis on the importance of the color red in personal decorative and portable art traditions of the region from antiquity to the modern day.

Lapteff, S.

Lee, Insook
Lee, I.S. and M.T. Wypyski

Liebner, Horst Hubertus
East Asian Studies, The University of Leeds.
Discovered off the coast of Indonesia, the wreck yielded beads of glass, rock crystal, coral, and numerous pearls. Of note are wooden rosary beads with religious Arabic inscriptions.

Liu, Robert K.
Excavated beads that probably date to AD 800-1400.

An account of the history of agate leech (boomerang-shaped) beads and the development of the form. Notched agate pendants from Thai Iron Age sites continue the tradition.

Mai Hong Lam
Discusses the gold and stone beads found at several Early Metal Age sites in Quang Nam province, Vietnam.

Matringhem, Aude and Patricia Mornais
The cemetery at Ban Wang Hi, Thailand, from about the start of the common era, produced many agate, carnelian, and glass beads (pp. 64-65).

McKinnon, E. Edwards and Tengku Luckman Sinar
The finding of 2,465 beads of various kinds suggests that a trade in beads was once carried on in this area.

Miksic, John N.
2013 *Singapore and the Silk Road of the Sea, 1300-1800*. NUS Press, Singapore.
Chapter 8 concentrates on glass beads recovered from sites in Singapore and Indonesia including their chemical composition. Also summarizes glassworking in China and Southeast Asia. Carnelian beads are discussed in chapter 9.

Provides an archaeological overview of the history of bead trade in Southeast Asia with a focus on Singapore, a centrally located trading port, mostly referencing sites at Fort Canning that have produced more evidence of trade and local recycling of glass beads.
Mohd. Kamaruzaman A. Rahman
An overview of recent archaeological work on Malaysian beads. In Malay.

Moore, Elizabeth
Summarizes carnelian bead usage in relationship to shifting patterns of interchange with Nagaland and other areas of South Asia and Yunnan.

Moore, Elizabeth and T. Tan

Moore, Elizabeth and U Aung Myint
The use of beads is common amongst many of the ethnic groups of Myanmar. Antique beads are valued for their inherent ancestral potency, and are used together with newer beads, especially by the Chin peoples. The old beads (Pumtek) originate from Pyu and Mon sites dating to the early 1st millennium AD. These include zoomorphic as well as geometric shapes.

Moore, Elizabeth and U Win Maung (Tampawaddy)
Beads were found at several sites where 1st-millennium remains have been found and include those of gold, quartz, green quartz, carnelian, and one zoomorphic specimen. The beads are discussed passim and summarized in a table at the end of the report.

Munan, Heidi
Comprehensive survey of Borneo beads. Sarawak, Malaysia, Kalimantan.

A whole chapter is devoted to the numerous articles (hats, baskets, etc.) which the various peoples decorate elaborately with imported seed beads. Malaysia.

Describes the traditional and modern beads of the Lan Bawang and related peoples of eastern Sarawak and western Sabah, Malaysia, and Brunei.


The article uses local information and interviews to show how the Melanau of Borneo use beads in a variety of contexts, some of them ceremonial, others ritual; many of the old practices are falling into disuse. There is a table of Melanau bead names and bead-related terms, and the source of Melanau beads is discussed. Sarawak, Malaysia, Kalimantan.

2005  *Beads of Borneo*. Editions Didier Millet, Singapore.

Displays the beauty, variety, and mystique of the beads and bead culture found in the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, and Brunei and Kalimantan in Indonesia. See Cheah (2006) for a review.


Presents a summary of the importance of beads among the Dayaks, the indigenous inhabitants of Borneo (Sarawak, Malaysia, Kalimantan).


Provides a condensed history of the origins and value of heirloom beads. As a long-time resident of Sarawak, Malaysia, Munan’s local knowledge adds interest to her stories and her hopes for future bead industries.


A distinctive blue barrel bead is found universally in Borneo but not equally valued by all groups nor are they concerned where the beads came from. Each variant of the blue barrel has a name and ranking. It is likely the preponderance of blue barrel heirloom beads were made by Chinese artisans in West Java specifically for the Borneo market. Sarawak, Malaysia, Kalimantan.


Discusses publications that deal with the beads of Borneo and includes a bibliography of such publications as well as a list of Internet sources.

*Munan, Heidi and Freya Martin (eds.)*


The various papers presented at the conference deal primarily with bead culture, past and present, in Southeast Asia, with emphasis on Borneo. The individual papers are listed in the relevant sections of this bibliography. See Nicholls (2012) for a review.


While most of the papers deal with beads and beadwork of Southeast Asia, a good portion relate to other cultures around the world. The individual papers are listed in the relevant sections of this bibliography. See Bernbaum (2012) for a review.
Munan-Oettli, Adelheid
1987  “Blue Beads to Trade with the Natives.” *Arts of Asia* 17(2):88-95.
Richly illustrated article on the uses of beads in Sarawak, island of Borneo, Malaysia, beliefs about them, and sources.

This article describes, interprets, and illustrates (in color) 22 polychrome glass beads collected among the Kayan people of Sarawak in 1964-1965.

Myint Aung, U. Moore, and E. Moore
A comprehensive study of Burmese beads, including archaeological hard stone beads, ethnographic Chin Pumtek beads, and the revival of traditional methods to meet the collectors’ market.

Needell, Carolyn Swan
Eight varieties of glass beads were identified including oblate specimens decorated with stratified eyes or formed using mosaic cane slices; tubular, conical, and tabular beads with faceted edges; and tiny beads of the far-flung Indo-Pacific type. Indonesia.

Nguyen Kim Dung
Discusses the late Neolithic/Bronze Age manufacture of bangles, beads, and other ornaments from nephrite, with special attention to the Trang Kenh workshop site near Hai Phong. In Vietnamese.

Jar burials at Giong Ca Vo and Giong Phet produced nearly 3,000 beads (80% of the total jewelry items found) and included carnelian, jade, garnet, agate, rock crystal, tktite, glass, shell, gold, and baked clay. Some are of local manufacture. The sites date ca. 500 BC-AD 100.

Focuses on a comparative study of ornaments manufactured from semi-precious stone, metals, and glass recovered from Sa Huynh jar-burial sites in Vietnam with those from contemporary sites across Southeast Asia and demonstrates how Sa Huynh society played a significant role in regional trade networks during the Iron Age.
Nguyen Kim Dung et al.
Deals with the rich collection of ornaments from two Iron Age jar burial sites near Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, dated to 2100-2450 BP. Materials include carnelian, agate, nephrite, rock crystal, garnet, glass, and shell. Gold ornaments were also found including beads. In Vietnamese.

Nguyen Truong Ky
Discusses the distribution of glass beads and ornaments in archaeological sites, presents some new analyses from Dong Son sites, and summarizes the historical and ethnographic evidence for glassmaking in Vietnam. In Vietnamese.

Nicholls, Jean

Nik Hassan Shuhami, Bin Nik Abdul Rahman, and Kamarrudin Bin Zakaria
Reports new finds of stone and glass beads from the late prehistoric to early historic periods (p. 80).

Nitta, Eiji
Examines the distribution, meaning, and trade in shell ornaments in prehistoric Thailand in the Neolithic period and discusses the change to bronze, iron, and glass ornaments between the 2nd millennium BC and the 1st millennium AD.

Nojima, Yoko
Reports on the glass and stone beads (carnelian and agate) recovered from an Iron Age site.

O’Connor, Sue, Matthew Spriggs, and Peter Veth
Direct dating of two shell beads has revealed that while the artifacts were recovered from levels dated to the Pleistocene, they themselves date to approximately 3500 and 4500 BP, respectively. The beads have evidently been vertically displaced downward or were part of the contents of a pit or other intrusive feature which was not discernable during excavation.
O’Reilly, Dougald and Louise Shewan
Surveys the finds (including beads of stone and glass) recovered from a number of Iron Age sites (ca. 500 BCE-500 CE) in Cambodia.

Oga, K. and S. Gupta
An artifactual signature of early long-distance trade in the Indian Ocean is observed in the distribution of Indo-Pacific beads.

Oga, Katsuhiko and Tomomi Tamura
Most ancient glass beads in Japan were brought there by long-distance ocean trade in the BCE-CE transition. This study categorizes the beads on the basis of chemical composition.

Ono, Rintaro, Fadilah Aziz, Adhi Agus Oktaviana, Dyah Prastiningtyas, Marlon Ririmasse, Nurachman Iriyanto, Irwansyah Zesse, Yoichiro Hisa, and Minoru Yoneda
2017  Development of Regional Maritime Networks during the Early Metal Age in Northern Maluku Islands: A View from Excavated Glass Ornaments and Pottery Variation. The Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology 13(1); https://doi.org/10.1080/15564894.2017.1395374.
Presents the results of compositional analysis of glass beads and other ornaments from a site in Indonesia dating to ca. 2100-1900 years BP. These date, combined with variable pottery, indicate the possible development of maritime and cross-regional networks to the Northern Maluku Islands.

Osakue, Emmanuel Ehimen
Undertakes to present a comprehensive analysis of African and Borneo beads to unveil their various messages and roles in these two regions.

Pautreau, Jean-Pierre (ed.)
Discusses the recovered glass, stone, and bone beads, including their chemical composition.

Pautreau, J.-P., P. Mornais, and Tasana Doy-Asa
Presents details of glass (with composition analyses), agate, and carnelian beads from Iron Age burials in northern Thailand (pp. 45-55).
Pham Due Manh
1996  

Reports on the 1994 excavation of a rich late Neolithic/Bronze Age site near the coast southeast of Ho Chi Minh City. The manufacture of drilled stone bangles was a significant craft activity and some prismatic and other stone beads were also made. In Vietnamese.

Pilditch, J.S.
1992  

The site yielded a surprisingly large number of glass beads for a non-mortuary site. Most of the beads were the common Indian trade beads, but a few may have different origins. One distinctive large group of orange-coated red-core beads is apparently new to the literature. Manufacturing methods and distribution within the site are discussed, and a tentative chronology has been worked out.

Poline Bala
2013  

Examines why ancient beads play important roles in the social life of the Kelabit of the highlands of Borneo and discusses efforts to preserve the value of such beads in contemporary Kelabit society.

Rahman, Mohd. Kamaruzaman A.
2018  

On Indo-Pacific beads found in Trench I at Pulau Kelumpang, Malaysia. In Malay.

Regis, Patricia and Judeth John Baptist
2011  

The Lotud live north of Kota Kinabalu, the capital of Sabah, the northern Malaysian state on Borneo. Many are now Christian and Muslim, but a significant number continue ancestral traditions. They believe beads have mystical powers and each piece of jewelry possesses a specific supernatural guardian. The power increases over time and when the beads are worn, it is infused into the wearer.

Reinecke, Andreas
1996  

A popular account of the Sa Huynh Culture of central Vietnam illustrating finds, including a nephrite earring on the side of an excavated skull, and a girl from the Ka-Tu ethnic minority group wearing a necklace of reused prehistoric beads.

2000  
Iron Age burial material from central Vietnam is described from looted collections recovered from antique shops in Hue. These include beads of glass, carnelian agate, quartz, nephrite, rock crystal, and gold.


Beinecke, Andreas, Vin Laychour, and Seng Sonetra 2009 The First Golden Age of Cambodia: Excavation at Prohear. Bonn. Beads of carnelian, agate, rock crystal, garnet, and gold were recovered from a looted burial site (Bit Meas) in southern Cambodia dating to ca. 200 BC-AD 100.


Based on a study of the bead shapes, manufacturing techniques, chemical analysis, and comparison with other beads, it is argued that the glass beads from eight archaeological sites were imported from India, Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.


Presents a typology for beads of the Philippines with suggestions for other Southeast Asian countries so that bead data from each country will be comparable.


Contains sections on ancient Sarawak beads, the making of beads, and local beadwork designs. Thoroughly illustrated in color and b&w.


Illustrates and discusses some of the glass beads, including segmented gold-glass examples, excavated in central Thailand and apparently dating to the 9th-11th centuries AD.
Sarjeant, Carmen
Discusses the small collection of carnelian, agate, bone, and glass beads found in Phase III burial contexts at two Iron Age sites in Thailand.

Shuhami, N.H.
Further excavations at the well-known bead sites around Kuala Seiinsing.

Soedewo, Ery
Analysis of recovered material reveals that Kampai Island, Sumatra, was a glass bead production site in the Malacca Strait region between the 11th and 14th centuries.

Song, S.

Srisuchat, Amara
The beads discussed range from prehistoric disc beads made from marine shell to glass beads of the 10th century AD.

Srisuchat, Amara
Includes descriptions of early beads from southern Thailand.

Srisuchat, Tharapong
Describes early historic beads from southern Thailand.

1987 Ancient Beads in the Southern Part of Thailand. In Encyclopaedia of Southern Culture. Sri Nakaraintaravirot University, Institute of Southern Studies, Songkhla.
In Thai; good color illustrations.


**Suchitta, Purnchoi**

2003 *Beads from Past to Present*. Munag Boran Publications, Bangkok.

A world-wide survey of beads, with emphasis on carnelian, agate, and glass beads from Thailand, South and Southeast Asia; many excellent color photographs. In Thai with an English abstract.

**Sudarmadi, Tular**


Stratum III at the Warloka Site yielded glass *mutisalah* and gold beads which had formed necklaces. An associated ceramic plate is assigned to the early Song Dynasty (ca. 960-1127).

**Szabó, Katherine**


Presents a detailed account of shell artifact production at various sites attributed primarily to the Lapita culture. The findings suggest widespread relationships in shell-working practices across the study area that have a considerable time depth. Beads appear to have been made principally from *Conus* shells.


Using the collection recovered from Ille Cave in Northern Palawan, the author investigates changes in shell ornament production from the Neolithic to the Metal Age as adornments of other materials – such as glass and metal – enter the region.

**Szabó, Katherine, Philip J. Piper, and Graeme Barker**


Of the metal-age (from ca. 2000 years ago), the Kain Hitam caves in the Niah caves complex in northwest Borneo produced finished and unfinished bone beads of several forms as well as beads of glass, stone, and baked clay.

**Szabó, Katherine and Hazel Ramirez**

2009 *Worked Shell from Leta Leta Cave, Palawan, Philippines*. *Archaeology in Oceania* 44:150-159.

Describes the shell beads, pendants, and other objects found with Neolithic burials.
Tamura, Tomomi

The collection includes post-Angkorian glass beads from a site in central Cambodia.

Tan, Terence
Deals with the evolution of design technology through the many historical periods in Myanmar. Many beads of semi-precious stones and gold are illustrated.

Presents an overview of stone and gold beads and figurines in Myanmar from the Transition Period (the Bronze/Iron Age, ca. 700-200 BC) to the Iron Age (ca. 400 BC-AD 200).

Tan, Terence, József Takács, and István Zelnik
Detailed and well illustrated catalogue of the stone and gold beads, pendants, and talismans in the Collection of Dr. István Zelnik.

Thanik Lertcharnrit
2006 The Moated Site of Promtin Tai and the Transition from Late Prehistory to Early History in Central Thailand. In Uncovering Southeast Asia's Past: Selected Papers from the 10th International Conference of the European Association of Southeast Asian Archaeologists, edited by Elisabeth A. Bacus, Ian C. Glover, and Vincent Pigott, pp. 258-265. NUS Press, Singapore.
Briefly discusses the stone and glass beads from deposits dating to the late prehistoric (Bronze and Iron Ages) and historic period (Dvaravati Period).

Thanik Lertcharnrit and Alison Carter
Iron Age burials yielded a number of glass and stone beads. In Thai with English summary.

Thawatchai Rammanat
Theunissen, Robert
A comprehensive study of agate and carnelian beads at both regional and site-base levels is used to investigate the origin, exchange, value, and social function of the beads, thereby shedding light on Iron Age social dynamics. At the local level, the study is used to evaluate alternative scenarios of organizational dynamics at the site of Noen U-Loke in northeast Thailand.

Similar content to Theunissen (2003). Thailand.

Theunissen, R., P. Grave, and G. Bailey
Discusses the likely origins of stone beads in the region.

Thiel, Barbara
Mentions and illustrates small slate disc beads from a mortuary context dating to between 3,500 BP and the late metal age.

Four glass beads of different types and one stone bead of ground red chert were excavated from levels 1 and 2.

Thongkam, Yatima
2009 A Study of Glassware from Archaeological Sites on Southern Coast of Thailand Prior to 11th Century A.D. M.A. thesis. Department of Archaeology, Silkaporn University, Bangkok.
Glass and stone beads enter into the discussion. Some are illustrated. In Thai.

Thongsa Sayavongkharsny and Peter Bellwood
Excavations in Northern Laos at two sites dating to the 500 BC to AD 500 period produced a rich collection of beads of marine shell, semi-precious stone, carnelian, clay, and glass, as well as cowries.

Veraprasert, M.

Villareal, F. William L.
Wan, Anyie and Heidi Munan
Provides a thumb-sketch survey of beads in Sarawak culture.

Wilken, Richard
The Non Pa Kluay site (ca. 400-10 BC) yielded glass and cylindrical agate beads (p. 103).

Williams, Lucy

Yakal, Madeleine Amee
The quality and quantity of the mostly glass beads found with juvenile burials in the northern Philippine highlands could indicate an expression of social ranking in Ifugao society as supported by morphological analysis, preliminary XRF analysis, and ethnographic studies of Ifugao heirlooms. The burials are attributed to the second half of the 2nd millennium AD.

Yankowski, Andrea
Describes the glass beads (drawn and coil) from a burial site in the central Philippines.

Zuliskandar Ramli
Discusses the glass beads of the early centuries AD excavated from sites in the Bujang Valley of Peninsular Malaysia. Most of these appear to be Indo-Pacific beads of local manufacture but there are also polychrome beads which appear to be imports.

As the previous entry.

Zuliskandar Ramli and Kamaruddin Zakaria
On the chemical composition of Indo-Pacific beads from Sungai Mas, Malaysia.
Zuliskandar Ramli, Nik Hassan Shuhaimi, and Nik Abdul Rahman
Bead discoveries reveal that international trade in Peninsular Malaysia began ca. 500 BC and the traders came from India, Persia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and China.

Zuliskandar Ramli, Nik Hassan Shuhaimi, Nik Abdul Rahman, and Abdul Latif Samian

Zuliskandar Ramli, Nik Hassan Shuhaimi, Nik Abdul Rahman, Sharifah Nur Izzati Sayed Hasan, Ros Mahwati Ahmad Zakaria, Mohd Rohaizat Abdul Wahab, Norlelawaty Haron, and Hasnira Hassan
Includes information about the chemical composition of the beads.