

SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HMONG-RELATED WORKS SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

General Interest Publications-Overviews of Hmong People and their Culture

Sandra Millett. (2002). *The Hmong: First Peoples of Southeast Asia*. Minneapolis: Lerner Books. An overview of Hmong culture in Thailand, Laos, China, Vietnam, and the United States. The work includes many colorful photographs. Sections of the book focus on the Hmong identity; the physical environment in the highlands where many Hmong reside; planting in the highlands; highland wildlife; ancient Hmong farmers; Hmong historical migration out of China; Hmong involvement in the Vietnam War; The Hmong agricultural economy; economic changes experienced by Hmong in Vietnam; traditional Hmong homes; Hmong villages and clans; Hmong marriages; the Hmong language and legends; Hmong clothing; Hmong stitchery; Hmong songs and music; Hmong myths and spirits; Spirits, birth and death in the Hmong community and Hmong community celebrations. While the reading level of this work is intended for youth, it also provides a very useful primer of Hmong culture, history, and geography for adults as well. Easily available from Lerner Publications <http://www.lernerbooks.com/> or Amazon.com

Robert Cooper. (Editor). (1998). *The Hmong: A guide to traditional lifestyles*. Singapore: Times Editions. A comprehensive guide to various aspects of the Hmong culture and lifestyle in Southeast Asia. Chapters discuss Hmong history, Hmong households, the Hmong lineage and clan system, Hmong identity, courtship and marriage practices, the Hmong socio-economy, Hmong musical codes, crafts, Hmong views and forms of communication with the other-world, Hmong Shamanism, and Hmong funeral rituals. Excellent primer on the traditional Hmong lifestyle and culture. Sometimes difficult to find. Available from Times Editions <http://mcia.timesone.com.sg/te/> and www.abebooks.com

Sue Murphy Mote. (2004). *Hmong and American: Stories of Transition to a Strange Land*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, Publishers. The author of this new book provides information about the life stories of Hmong Americans derived from interviews with twelve Hmong refugees residing across the U.S. Those interviewed include a female shaman, an ex-military officer, a reformed gang member, a doctor, and a woman who lived in France as a child. In separate chapters, the author also discusses Hmong history and her trip to Hmong villages in Laos in the mid-1990s. A new work easily available from the publisher <http://www.mcfarlandpub.com/> or Amazon.com

Donald A. Ranard. (Editor) (2004). *The Hmong: An Introduction to their History and Culture*. Washington D.C.: Center for Applied Linguistics. This new work is intended as a basic primer to educators and professionals about the Hmong people. The volume includes sections related to Hmong history, Hmong life in Laos, the Hmong refugee experience in Thailand, Hmong literacy and education, Hmong resettlement in the United States, the Hmong language, and common Hmong words, phrases and sayings. The work also includes a small bibliography of other Hmong-related publications. A brand new

publication available to order online from the publisher the Center for Applied Linguistics - <http://calstore.cal.org/store/>

Susan Omoto. (2002). *Hmong Milestones in America: Citizens in a New World*. Evanston, IL: John Gordon Burke Publishing. This work intended for younger audiences provides basic information about the history, daily life, and culture of the Hmong people. It also includes biographical profiles of five notable Hmong: Dr. Xoua Thao, the first Hmong medical doctor; Ying Vang, the first Hmong Catholic priest in the United States; Choua Lee, the first elected Hmong official in the U.S., Rev. Bea Vue-Benson, the first Hmong Lutheran Minister and Christopher Thao, the first Hmong Attorney in the U.S. Available from the publisher John Gordon Burke Publishing.

<http://www.jgburkepub.com/> Search under Publications for the Younger Reader.

Hmong-American Literature

Mai Neng Moua (Ed.) (2002). *Bamboo Among the Oaks: Contemporary Writing by Hmong Americans*. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society. An anthology of poems, prose, and short plays by Hmong-American authors. Easily available from Amazon.com or from the website of the Minnesota Historical Society, the publisher

<http://www.mnhs.org/>

Hmong-American Health and Medicine

Kathleen A. Culhane-Pera, Vawter, Dorothy .E., Xiong, Phua, Babbitt, Barbara and Mary M. Solberg. (Editors).(2003). *Healing by Heart: Clinical and Ethical Case Stories of Hmong Families and Western Providers*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press. A compilation with numerous articles by different authors providing a comprehensive overview along with case studies of Hmong physical and mental health. Sections of the work are subdivided into the following parts: Hmong Health-Related Cultural Beliefs, Practices and Values, Hmong Women's Health, Hmong Children's Health, Hmong and Chronic Disease, Mental Illness and Domestic Violence, and End of Life-Care of Hmong patients. Easily available from Amazon.com or Vanderbilt University Press

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/vupress/catalog.html>

Dia Cha. (2003). *Hmong American Concepts of Health, Healing, and Conventional Medicine*. New York: Routledge. This work provides a comprehensive overview of traditional and changing Hmong concepts of health, medicine and healing practices. Chapters in the work discuss the impact of Christianity and refugee resettlement on Hmong society and health care, the traditional Hmong health system, Hmong American health care in the state of Colorado, Hmong cultural beliefs related to health, healing and illness and Hmong health-related behavior. The volume also includes a detailed glossary with explanations of important Hmong health, medical and spiritual terms. Available from Amazon.com or the publisher Routledge: <http://www.routledge.com/>

Hmong-American Education

Bruce Bliatout, B.T. Downing, J. Lewis and D. Yang (1988). *Handbook for Teaching Hmong-Speaking Students*. Folsom, CA: Folsom Cordova Unified School District, Southeast Asia Community Resource Center. Old but still very relevant for cultural orientation information for educators working with Hmong students and parents. Available to download online from the Southeast Asia Resource Center website: <http://www.seacrc.org/media/pdffiles/HmongBk.pdf>

Lessons Plans and Activities for Youth

Dia Cha and N. Livo. (2000). *Teaching With Folk Stories of the Hmong: An Activity Book*. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, Inc. This book is intended for teachers and others who work with children and youth. The work provides activity suggestions, project ideas, and discussion questions related to various aspects of Hmong life and culture including farming and food, stories and storytelling, folk arts, and customs and symbols. Available for order from Amazon.com and the Libraries Unlimited website <http://lu.com/search.cfm>

Youth and Children's Books

Randy Snook. (2003). *Many Ideas Open the Way: A Collection of Hmong Proverbs*. Fremont, CA: Shen's Books. Book of Hmong proverbs featuring colorful photos of Hmong family members in cultural attire. This book may be ordered from Amazon.com or the publisher Shen's Books: <http://www.shens.com/>

Dia Cha. (2002). *Dia's Story Cloth. Hmong/English Bilingual Edition.* (Children's Storybook). St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Humanities Commission, New York: Lee and Low Books, Denver: Museum of Natural History. This book uses a pictures of a Hmong family storycloth to share with the reader the experience of the Hmong refugees from Laos fleeing the Vietnam War, living in refugee camps in Thailand and adjusting to life in the U.S. Available from the Minnesota Humanities Commission website: <http://www.minnesotahumanities.org/Literacy/bilingual.htm#hmong>
One of 17 books translated into both Green and White Hmong in English/Hmong bilingual editions as part of the Minnesota Humanities Commission's Hmong Translation Initiative.

Blia Xiong. (2001). *Nine-in-One Grr! Grr!*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Humanities Commission, San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press. Illustrated book based on a Hmong folk tale. Also available from the Minnesota Humanities Commission website.

Nicol Bryan. (2003). *Hmong Americans*. Abdo Publishing Company, Edina, MN. A children's book with basic information about Hmong history, the Hmong experience in the United States, Hmong culture, the Hmong language and accomplishments of Hmong Americans. Available from Amazon.com and the publisher Abdo Publishing Company <http://www.abdopub.com/>

Pegi Deitz Shea. (2003). *Tangled Threads: A Hmong Girl's Story*. New York: Clarion Books. A novel for the youth audience that describes the experiences of a 13 year old Hmong girl living in a refugee camp in Thailand who moves to Rhode Island and must become acquainted with the American way of life. Available from Amazon.com and the publisher Clarion Books

<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/clarion/>

Dictionaries

Mark Thompson and Saint Paul Public Schools English Language Learners Programs. (2002). *English-White Hmong and White Hmong-English Dictionary*. Saint Paul MN: Saint Paul Public Schools. Dictionary with two-way translations. The work also includes a special education dictionary, a list of common Hmong names, as well as a section on English and Hmong sentence structure. A separate Picture Dictionary and CD dictionary is also now available. This dictionary is available to order from the Talking dictionary website at: <http://ww2.saturn.stpaul.k12.mn.us/Hmong/sathmong.html>

Videos

Alchemy Films. (2001). *The Split Horn*. Alchemy Films. A video documentary about a Hmong shaman and his family living in Appleton, Wisconsin. The film focuses upon a Hmong shaman's struggle to maintain his ancient traditions as his children embrace American culture. Available to order in both English and Hmong from the distributor Alchemy Films <http://www.alchemyfilms.com/>

Ken and Ivory Levine. (1982). *Becoming American*. New Day Films. This documentary shows the experiences of a Hmong refugee family as they move from a refugee camp in Thailand to Seattle Washington. The video is available for order from New Day Films http://www.newday.com/films/Becoming_American.html

Websites

Hmong Cultural Center. (www.hmongcenter.org) The Hmong Cultural Center's website includes lesson plans, extensive information about Hmong history and culture, detailed 2000 census data relating to the Hmong across the United States, galleries, and information about Hmong people around the world, pictures and information pertaining to Hmong cultural artifacts, Hmong bibliographies, and a full indexed and annotated catalog of the hundreds of Hmong-related books, PhD dissertations, academic journal articles, newspaper articles, and videos contained in the cultural center's Hmong Resource Centre in St. Paul, MN.

Hmong Studies Internet Resource Center. (www.hmongstudies.org) The Hmong Studies Internet Resource Center provides 30 Hmong-related subject bibliographies with references to books and articles in a broad range of topical sub-areas including Hmong history, culture, Hmong socio-cultural adaptation in diaspora communities across the

world, and physical health. The website also includes extensive Hmong-related census data from the 2000 U.S. census and a library of research papers. It is also the host of the Hmong Studies Journal. The Hmong Studies Journal is an internet-based publication devoted to the scholarly discussion of Hmong history, Hmong culture, Hmong people, and other facets of the Hmong experience in the U.S., Asia, and around the world. Four volumes and six issues (and 30 fulltext online articles) of the online journal have been published since 1996. Hmong Studies Journal printed its first hard copy edition (Volume 4) in 2004; it includes extra artwork and census data not found in the online version.

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