

# News and Reviews Vol. 8, No. 2 Fall 2005

# Pandemic: Facing AIDS

>> Directed by Rory Kennedy. 2003. 113 minutes.

**P** and emic: Facing AIDS, a five-part HBO series-turnedfeature film by filmmaker Rory Kennedy and narrated by Elton John and Danny Glover (the

Review

feature film version), is a very emotional and intimate look at HIV and AIDS around the world.

Kennedy decided on the project after making a documentary about AIDS in Africa, a project which profoundly affected her view of the AIDS crisis. Garnering support from the MAC AIDS Foundation, the Elton John AIDS Foundation, the AOL Time Warner Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Pfizer Foundation, Kennedy's documentary grew into a fullfledged campaign to raise awareness and combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. Viewers interested in learning more about the film project and findinginformation on additional resources for the classroom can visit the production company's website at www.moxiefirecracker.com.

In the documentary, Kennedy travels to Brazil, Uganda, Russia, Thailand, and India, in each country profiling a unique story of an HIVinfected person or family. The film presents a very thorough and unvarnished view of HIV, showing real people struggling with, and succumbing to, the ravages of the disease. Kennedy's film serves as an excellent tool for promoting cultural awareness by focusing on a disease that transcends cultural boundaries but whose treatment and prevention can be profoundly influenced by the local culture. Viewers of all backgrounds are sure to connect with the powerful personal stories shown in the film.

In Thailand, viewers see the story of Lek, a former Thai sex worker in the final stages of AIDS. The segment begins with Lek far from her village, in one of the very few AIDS hospices in Thailand. Although hundreds are waiting for a

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Devastated by AIDS: Nagaraj and Bhanu and their daughter are featured in the film.

bed in this monk-run hospice, with patients dying every day, the turnover is also high. Lek intially fears that her disease might bring shame upon her family but finally resolves to visit her parents and her son to say good-bye. Upon returning to the hospice, she learns that her family wants her to come home to die with them and not among strangers. Her homecoming is both beautiful and sad. The film shows her last few weeks as her health fails and ends with her death in her home village. The story graphically reveals the terrible and slow demise of Thai HIV/AIDS infected patients with access to little or no healthcare. The images of death and dying are prominent and difficult to watch, and the dialogue between Lek and her family, which helplessly watches and cares for her during her final weeks, is heartwrenching. Yet her story realistically captures the brutal nature of the disease, especially when it is left untreated.

In India, the film features a couple, Nagaraj and his wife Bhanu. Shortly after they are married, Nagaraj learns that he is infected with HIV, likely from unprotected sex with a prostitute. Tests reveal that his wife, Bhanu, is HIV negative so the couple initially abstains from sex immediately following Nagaraj's diagnosis. However, the pressure to have children in Indian society is so overwhelming that the couple eventually decides to conceive a child in spite of Nagaraj's HIV status. Shortly thereafter, Bhanu learns that she is pregnant, but she also discovers that she has now contracted the virus. The documentary follows the couple as they take preventative measures to lower the risk of transmission to their child. Their segment ends with the birth of their baby girl, who appears to be HIV negative. According to an update on the HBO program website [which is no longer available], the baby has repeatedly tested negative for HIV, suggesting that she does not have the virus. But sadly, we learn that Nagaraj has succumbed to the disease since the filming.

While the remaining segments are not focused on Asia, they contrast how HIV/AIDS is dealt with in other countries. In Brazil, HIV patients have free access to medicine, which has significantly slowed the disease's progression there. In Russia, anti-retroviral medicine is also widely available. On the other end of the spectrum, the segment on Uganda, where basic HIV/AIDS testing and treatment is severely limited, shows how the AIDS epidemic is spiraling out of control. The tragic result is an entire generation of

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#### Asian Educational Media Service

The Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) is a program of the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. AEMS offers information about where to find audiovisual media resources for teaching and learning about Asia, and advice about which ones may best suit your needs. In addition to *AEMS News and Reviews*, published quarterly, services include a free call-in/write-in service and a Web site. To add your name to our mailing list, request additional copies of the newsletter to use in workshops or to share with your colleagues, or ask for help in locating resources, please contact us.

AEMS is made possible by generous support from The Freeman Foundation and The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership.

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# What's New?

### From the Editor

By the time you read this, it will have been more than seven months since I took over the directorship of AEMS and the editorial duties of this newsletter. Much has changed since the beginning of this year, but my enthusiasm for the program remains true. AEMS provides wonderful resources to the community of Asia scholars, stu-



AEMS staff (from left): Jenny Huang, Susan Norris, and Rebecca Nickerson.

dents, and educators, and it is rewarding to work towards improving our services to meet those needs. Since our last issue, I have had more time to consider and implement new projects; some of these ideas can be found in this issue of *News and Reviews*. Others can be seen on our website. More are still to come. While it might take some time before we will be able to move at full-speed, I hope that you will continue to give us feedback about how we are doing. It's always nice to know when there's interest and excitement about our services; the knowledge fuels us to make greater efforts.

-Jenny C. Huang

### From the New Assistant Program Coordinator

**M** y name is Susan Norris, and I am very pleased to be joining the AEMS program as the assistant program coordinator. My educational background includes a Master of Arts (MA) from Northern Illinois University in Political Science with a concentration in Southeast Asian studies. I also have my Master of Library Science (MLS) from UIUC. I had the opportunity to travel in Thailand, Vietnam, and Burma in 1998 and 2000, and I have focused my studies primarily on these three countries. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any thoughts or concerns about my role here at AEMS.

—Susan Norris

### Asian Educational Media Service/Education About Asia

Special Media Section: Spring 2006

The Asian Educational Media Service and *Education About Asia* are pleased to announce that we will again be collaborating on an expanded media review section in *EAA*'s Spring 2006 issue. Jenny Huang, program director of AEMS, will be editing this section, which will address the use of feature films, documentaries, CD-ROMs, videos, and DVDs in teaching about Asia. We are looking for reviews of these materials with an emphasis upon classroom use.

We welcome manuscripts on all areas of Asia and on a wide variety of topics. Reviews should run approximately 350 words (one and a half double-spaced manuscript pages); essays should run about 1,000 words (four double-spaced manuscript pages). If you would like to discuss a topic or film for review, or have other questions, please contact Jenny Huang by phone or email. Please send one copy of your submission(s) by e-mail attachment to BOTH of the following people by no later than December 12, 2005.

Jenny Huang, Program Director Asian Educational Media Service Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 805 West Pennsylvania Avenue, MC 025 Urbana, IL 61801 Tel: 217-265-0642 or 888-828-AEMS Fax: 217-265-0641 E-mail: huangj@uiuc.edu Web: www.aems.uiuc.edu

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# *Global Villages: The Globalization of Ethnic Display*

>> Produced and written by Tamar Gordon. 2004. 61 minutes.

his documentary takes up the topic of ethnic theme parks, a topic that has received growing attention in the field of anthropology over the past decade or so. Once viewed as rather "déclassé" examples of the embarrassing "inauthenticity" of touristic representations of ethnic others, ethnic theme parks have more recently come to be recognized as important sites for the assertion, construction, and negotiation of national and ethnic identity in the context of a consumer society. In conjunction with studies of museums and the politics of representation more generally, scholarship on theme parks opens a valuable window onto the locations where capitalism and nationalism, money and identity, collide and collude. Painful as some of these theme park representations are to watch, they also reveal the multiple, intersecting desires-for money, for exoticism, for development, for inclusion-that motivate a range of different people to come together to perform identity at these sites.

*Global Villages* specifically takes up four theme park contexts in China and Japan. In China, it focuses on the Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot development near the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone in Southeast China (which

includes the China Folk Culture Villages and the Window of the World attractions) and the Yunnan Nationalities Villages in Kunming. In Japan, it examines Huis Ten Bosch in Nagasaki and Parque España in Western Japan. The documentary takes us with filmmaker/ethnographer Tamar Gordon and her assistants through the theme parks, observing the stage shows, speaking with the managers and performers, and

exploring the interactions between the actors and their audience. It makes for captivating viewing.

Asia seems to have seen a more intense fascination than other regions with the ethnic theme park as it depicts not the ethnic self (as in many third world tourist contexts) but the ethnic other. Thus, China Folk Culture Villages and the Yunnan Nationalities Villages depict China's minorities for an audience of primarily Han Chinese, while Window of the World focuses on foreign groups such as Africans and Native Americans. Similarly, Huis Ten Bosch depicts the Netherlands with extraordinary verisimilitude, while Parque España vaguely gestures toward Spain. By and large, the Chinese parks are fixated on the "interior other," and the simultaneous recognition of and objectification of minority groups

such as the Mosuo, the Uighur, and Tibetans in the context of a new market economy in which difference is desirable if it can be contained by consumption. Meanwhile, the Japanese parks seem focused on Japan's fraught and incomplete encounter with the "exterior other" of European imperialism. In both cases, the "authenticity" of

the ethnic other is

fetishized in some

places while being

in others. Thus,

completely sidelined

"real" minorities are

highlighted as the

performers of their

own culture's dances

folk villages, but at

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> range of "foreign" ethnicities because of their "innate" similarities to other races.

The documentary is most effective when it allows these performers and managers to speak for themselves. The filmmaker has a fine ethnographic respect for people's ability to tell their own story,



and the contradictions they face emerge forcefully in their words. The documentary is less effective in its voice-over narration. While some contextualization is necessary, the questions of politics of representation ("who speaks for whom?") raised at the end are not meaningfully explored in the body of the work so much as hinted at. However, the work as a whole will make a valuable introduction to the politics of theme park represen-

tations, and undoubtedly inspire lively, perhaps incredulous, reactions from high school and college aged viewers (particularly at the Wa-African American rappers). To my mind, it will be as effective at inspiring discussion of American parallel phenomena ("It's a Small World" at Disneyworld, for example) as it is as a work on Asia. We all need to address our desires to exoticize and consume some form of "otherness" somewhere; *Global Villages* shows us some of the economic and political stakes of doing so. ◆

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Karen Kelsky is the head of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and associate professor in Anthropology and the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory. She is currently working on two projects, one on the cultural politics of neoliberalism and the other on Japanese queer urban spaces and practices of lesbian cross-dressing.

*Global Villages: The Globalization of Ethnic Display* is available directly from the producer Tamar Gordon. Price is \$30 for individual and \$125 for institutional purchase.

[Editor's note: a new version of this documentary is scheduled to be released this fall. The revised film will be under 58 minutes and contain new titles and maps for each section. Other updates include revised subtitles, new footage, and remixed sound. Please contact the film producer, Tamar Gordon, for more information.]

# Nuclear Nightmare: Understanding North Korea

>> Produced by The Discovery Channel. 2003. 50 minutes.

A sone of the remaining communist states, North Korea (officially called the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or DPRK) is noted for its dissonance with the rest of the world. While it is known that the North Korean government and its leaders have consolidated their powers through effective exploitation of cultural beliefs and limited access to outside information, the strength of their control over the population in the midst of poverty and famine continues to mystify the global community. Since 2002, when President Bush identified North Korea as a part of the "axis of evil" in his State of the Union address, the country's leader, Kim Jung II, has kept North Korea in news headlines. Today, this "hermit

kingdom" ranks fifth in the world's military power and boasts of its increasing nuclear capabilities.

So this year, I decided to incorporate a documentary program called *Nuclear Nightmare: Understanding North Korea* into my high school United States History classes. A joint production of The New York Times and The Discovery Channel, *Nuclear Nightmare* provided students with an absorbing introduction to the currently unresolved North Korean nuclear crisis. The documentary, combined with discussions based on recent newspaper articles about North Korea, gave them a framework for evaluating U.S. foreign





policy during the Clinton and Bush administrations. It also created a classroom opportunity for serious

reflection about East Asia and served as a powerful reminder of how the past continues to play a central role in the complicated dynamics of international relations in the region. As a follow-up, students were assigned to formulate a foreign policy towards North Korea for the Bush administration. This lesson was one of the most successful assignments of the entire school year. Students were fascinated by the film and wanted to learn more not only about Korea, but also about East Asia.

The documentary begins by telling the story of the current North Korean leader Kim Jung Il and how he holds the world captive by "what many see as a cunning strategy of extortion by threatening to develop an arsenal of nuclear weapons." In less than an hour's time the viewer is presented with an overview of the history of the Korean peninsula from the beginning of the 20th century to the present crisis and covers events such as the Japanese occupation of Korea, the division of the country by the United States, the Korean War, and Kim Il Sung's role in founding the North Korean state. The program shows how Kim Il Sung secured his position as the "Great Leader" of North Korea and later passed on this power to his son, the quixotic Kim Jung Il.

Commentaries from numerous highly respected Korean experts, such as Selig Harrison, author of Korean Endgame: A Strategy for Reunification and U.S. Disengagement (Princeton University Press, 2002), and Donald Gregg, former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea, provide considerable depth and credibility to the program as they describe Kim Jung II's authoritative grip on his country, revealing the tragic plight of the North Korean people. There is a particularly poignant moment when an escapee (a former prison guard) shares his experiences of life in North Korea and the loss of his father, who was accused of speaking critically of the regime. The audience becomes aware of the increasing number of attempts to escape by North Koreans. Although defectors take great risks to escape to China, they are often captured by the Chinese military and returned to North Korean prison camps to face torture and death.

Another segment of *Nuclear Nightmare* follows the events of the Clinton administration and the

nuclear crisis of 1994, when the United States nearly went to war to stop North Korea's nuclear weapons program. Nuclear Nightmare shows how former president Jimmy Carter's visit with Kim Il Sung during the crucial days of the crisis helped pave the way for a tentative agreement, which was later formulated into

The documentary, combined with discussions based on recent newspaper articles about North Korea, gave [the students] a framework for evaluating U.S. foreign policy during the Clinton and Bush administrations.

the Ågreed Framework" of October 21, 1994. Based on this agreement, North Korea and the United States continued their talks even after Kim Il Sung's sudden death in the same year. In 2000, during the final weeks of the Clinton administration, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met with Kim's son and successor, Kim Jung Il, leaving on the negotiation table a "hopeful set of cards" for futher discussions between the two nations.

The next segment of the program includes a video clip from President George W. Bush's åxis of evil" speech and shows how the current administration's rejection of the agreements left in place by the pre-

vious administration has led to increased tensions in the region. In addition to North Korea's nuclear capability, the Bush administration believes that Kim Jung II will sell weapons and plutonium to terrorist groups. The program discusses the impact of this change on the United State's foreign policy, and commentators explore various options for the future, their risks, and the possibility of an unspeakable disaster.

The program concludes with a remark from an elderly Korean man. When asked about the possibility of reunification between the North and the South, he explains that the memory of brothers killing brothers during the Korean War is still very real, so feunification will only come after the Korean War generation dies off."

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Mary E. Connor is a teacher at Westridge School in Pasadena, California, author of *The Koreas: A Global Studies Handbook*, and current director of teacher seminars on Korean history and culture at the Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles. She has been the recipient of two Korea Society Fellowships (2000 and 2004) and the Organization of American Historians Pre-Collegiate Award (2005).

*Nuclear Nightmare: Understanding North Korea* is available from The Discovery Channel Store. Price is \$21.95 for the DVD.

### Pandemic

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HIV-infected Ugandan children, many orphaned after the AIDS-related deaths of their parents.

Interestingly, in four of the narratives profiled, including the two in Asia, the cost of cutting-edge medical treatment is prohibitive for nearly all of those afflicted with HIV/AIDS. At the same time, the disease threatens to reach proportions that could very well impact the future development of these developing, or transitional, economies. This is especially true in the case of Africa. Consequently, education and prevention are paramount in these countries' efforts to curb the spread of the disease. In Thailand, a thriving sex tourism industry has not only made the fight against AIDS more difficult but, given the implications of the spread of the disease internationally, it has also given the Thai effort even greater urgency.

This series is an excellent tool that can be used in high school, perhaps on the occasion of World AIDS Day on December 1st, to educate students on the global crisis of HIV/AIDS. There is an accompanying book available from Umbrage Editions (www.umbragebooks.com), which includes many photographs, as well as notable essays by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, documentary filmmaker Rory Kennedy, and economist Jeffrey Sachs.

The film and supporting materials can be used to foster a discussion on how one issue impacts countries and regions of the world differently. Specific topics to discuss include culture, healthcare, and education. For instance, students could The film follows Leks last few weeks of life in Thailand. Her story is heartwrenching, yet it realistically captures the brutal nature of AIDS, especially when it is left untreated.

discuss what measures countries could take to promote prevention, whether these countries have the means to undertake such measures, and whether such measures are culturally acceptable. Additionally, students might discuss the different challenges that each person faced in coping with the same disease as portrayed in the film.  $\blacklozenge$ 

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Susan Norris is the assistant program coordinator for the Asian Educational Media Service at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has a Master of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in Southeast Asian Studies from Northern Illinois University, as well as a Master of Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

*Pandemic: Facing AIDS* is available in DVD format from Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, and other online retailers. Prices start at \$24.71.



#### Additional Resources

- Patents and Patients, from Life III, a 12-part series (Bullfrog Films, 2002). Directed by Joost de Haas. Produced by Television Trust for the Environment. India battles HIV/AIDS with generic drugs.
- *The Cost of Living*, from *Life*, a 30-part series (Bullfrog Films, 2000). Directed by Toni Strasburg. Produced by Television Trust for the Environment. This film focuses on Thailand and South Africa.
- *To Live Is Better than to Die* (Filmakers Library, 2002). Directed by Weijun Chen. A powerful and unsentimental portrait of the bleak day-to-day existence of an AIDS-stricken family in Central China.



## The Long March

>> Directed by John D. Liu. 2001. 27 minutes. From the City Life series.

The effects of globalization can be experienced in a variety of ways. This aphorism guides a set of short (25–30 minutes) documentaries in a series called *City Life* about how communities in big cities—bursting with both life and sources of pollution—are taking action to ensure the quality of their lives. The second episode in the series, *The Long March*, takes place in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province in southwest China, and focuses on the ever-important topic of water pollution, which is a problem of universal concern and is not limited to China.

Like many urban areas in China's south, Chengdu enjoys a plentiful supply of water, the result of a successful engineering project (the Dujiangyan Irrigation System) dating back to 256–251 BCE. Cutting through mountains on the riverbanks, this system diverts water from the Minjiang River, supplying Chengdu with fresh water and preventing floods—hence the term "*tianfu zhiguo*" or "land of plenty," a name by which the city and region has been known throughout its history.

Over time, however, the waters of the Fu-Nan River (the combination of two rivers—the Fu River, which runs along the north and east, and the Nan River, which runs along the west and the south) that flowed through Chengdu became notorious for its level of pollution. As China opened up its economy and unleashed its capitalist spirits in the 1980s, industrialization accelerated, drawing more rural people into the provincial capital in search of better pay and prospects. This expansion in industry and population, in turn, overloaded the city's waterways, which were not prepared to deal with the increased influx of chemicals and raw sewage.

In 1985, the rankness of the river provoked a primary school teacher and his students to write a letter of complaint to the city government. Recognizing the seriousness of the problem, the city and its residents began a project to clean up

the river and to restore its utility to the community. This documentary examines Chengdu's efforts to address this issue—it describes the magnitude of the water pollution problem, the involvement of citizens from various community sectors, the solution plan (e.g. the relocation of 100,000 citizens and over 1,000 businesses), and finally,

the cost (330 million U.S. dollars) and benefits of the project. Although it took more than five years of planning before the solution was implemented, the results not only addressed the issue of water quality but also provided better housing for some of the relocated residents while raising civic consciousness. Since its completion, the project has been viewed as a model of success not only by other domestic municipalities but also by environmentally concerned regions in the global community.

Instructors interested in teaching about global issues such as water pollution and how they are experienced and addressed differently in various locales might be able to incorporate *The Long March*, as well as other episodes of the *City Life* series, into their curricula. The length of these videos makes it easy to show a complete program in one classroom session. It must be noted, however, that in this particular episode, the slightly unnatural and nasal quality of one of the interview voice-overs can be somewhat surprising and distracting for the viewers.

In sum, *The Long March* offers an upbeat look at how the Chinese are dealing with environmental problems. This is a welcome message because there have been a number of recent successes in China and "green" issues have become a much discussed topic on the Chinese political agenda. Rare is the Chinese newspaper today that goes through a week without half a dozen stories on environmental issues. Rarer still is the TV station that does not broadcast a couple of publicinterest ads on clean air, clean water, and the like, every day. Perhaps rarest of them all is this unique opportunity for the global community to take a closer look at China's response to such quality of life concerns. ◆

Ken Klinkner is the assistant director and outreach coordinator for the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

*The Long March* is available from Bullfrog Films. Price is \$195 for the DVD/VHS tape.





# **AEMS Program Activities and Service Upgrades**



The **Asian Education Media Service** (AEMS) is pleased to announce that we have

made a number of exciting changes to our program offerings and we invite everyone to take advantage of these service upgrades as the new academic year begins. Users will notice these updates most significantly on our website, but in addition to revamping the website for greater userfriendliness, we have also implemented considerable changes to our local resource library and we plan to introduce a number of other new services over the course of the coming semesters. We have worked hard all summer to make these upgrades and hope that you will take the time to read about these changes, try them out, and give us feedback!

#### Website: www.aems.uiuc.edu

Asian Regional Resources. We have updated all links and added a number of new links to our Asian Regional Resources pages. Many of you have come to rely on these country pages for lesson plans and other materials that can be used in the classroom, and now you will find up-to-date information on each region's geography, culture, and current events. Our goal is not only to continually update the content but also to add new information. As you browse through and use these resources, we hope that you will not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Online Database. Currently, we are in the final phase of project completion but later this fall users will be able to enjoy an upgraded online database with enhanced search capabilities. Instead of specifying the search criteria for various fields (the current search tool requires that users specify region, media type, subject, audience, and title keywords), users will be able to do a "simple search" and sort the results in a number of ways. We expect that the revised tool will simplify the search process and give users more efficient access to information.

New Global Issues and Current Events Section. To aid educators and students in learning more about topics that appear in news headlines, we have introduced a new section entitled "Global Issues and Current Events," which will include updated information, links, and other resources concerning contemporary issues related to Asia, as well as topics relevant to the global community. This fall, the section will contain resources that address the 60th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the 2004 tsunami in Southeast Asia, and the 2005 World Expo that is currently taking place in Aichi, Japan.



### AEMS News and Reviews Online Archive

Our quarterly newsletter continues to enjoy a wide readership and we appreciate the positive comments we receive regarding its content and usefulness for teaching. Although many of our subscribers have kept the paper copies for future reference, we know that some of you prefer to access the electronic copies available on our program website. In order to help readers locate specific issues and articles more efficiently, we have introduced two new features to the AEMS News and Reviews archive section. For each current issue, users can now use an online table of contents to jump directly to the article of choice. In addition, back issues have been reorganized so that the most recent issues are listed first. We expect that this will make it much easier for users to navigate the archive and to access relevant information more quickly.

### Local Resource Library

For local users who have access to our media library resources, we have taken steps to expand and diversify our video and DVD collection. We have purchased a number of popular feature films from Asia that are available on DVD and are suitable for introducing important issues to classroom discussions. Some of those films include *The Story*  of the Weeping Camel (Mongolia), Vertical Ray of the Sun (Vietnam), What Time Is It There? (Taiwan), and The Way Home (South Korea), as well as a selection of now-classic anime (animation) films from famed Japanese animator Miyazaki Hayao, such as Castle in the Sky and Kiki's Delivery Service. Of course, our library will continue to hold copies of all materials reviewed in AEMS News and Reviews as well as films featured in our local Asian film festival each year. We encourage local users to visit our library and take advantage of these new and existing titles. (For information on our service area and borrowing guidelines, please visit the "Local Media Library" section on our website.)

### Other Changes to Come

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about some of the exciting program developments here at AEMS. In addition to these summer projects, we are also considering other areas for development—ideas such as creating new feature film teachers' guides, co-sponsoring outreach workshops, and participating in various regional educational conferences. As we continue to explore new ways to provide better resources for learning and teaching about Asia, we hope that you will support this effort by utilizing our new tools and giving us your valuable input so that AEMS will continue to be a useful service to everyone.

#### Asian Educational Media Service

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**Discovery Channel Video**, P.O. Box 788, Florence, KY 41022-0788. Tel: 1-800-627-9399. Fax: 859-342-0633. Web site: http://shopping.discovery.com. **Tamar Gordon**, P.O. Box 187, Sand Lake, NY 12153. Tel: 518-674-8662. Fax: 518-674-2377. E-mail: gordot@rpi.edu.