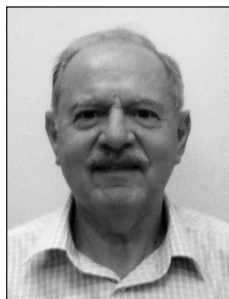


About the Author



Edward Van Roy arrived in Thailand in 1963 with the Cornell-Bennington Survey of Hill Tribes in Thailand and, in effect, never left. His hill tribe research led to a doctorate in economics, credentialed in economic anthropology (University of Texas, 1965) and a monograph titled *Economic Systems of Northern Thailand* (Cornell University Press, 1971). Bracketed between a tenured appointment with the Department of Economics at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and a visiting appointment with the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, he was stationed for some three decades at Bangkok with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) as senior economist and then consecutively directed the Development Planning Division, Transport and Communications Division, and Social Development Division. He is grateful for the many opportunities presented by that lengthy, leisurely, lucrative tenure to explore Bangkok's maze of cultural, cross-cultural, intercultural, and multicultural byways. Since his UN retirement in 1997 he has spent much of his time researching Bangkok's ethnic history, producing *Sampheng: Bangkok's Chinatown Inside Out* (Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, 2007) as well as a number of shorter studies, while holding visiting fellowships with Chulalongkorn University's Institute of Asian Studies and Department of History.