

About OREC

Written by Administrator

Saturday, 10 May 2008 00:42 - Last Updated Sunday, 03 March 2013 00:32

What is OREC?

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| <table border="0" style="width: 20px; height: 80px;"><tr><td>What is OREC?</td></tr></table> | What is OREC? | |
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Organization of Rice Exporting Countries (OREC)

International Head Office

The denomination Organisation of Rice Exporting Countries (OREC) describes a project that to organize 21 rice exporting countries to create a homonymous organisation. The group is mainly made up of Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar but there are other rice exporting countries to be invited. The project came to the attention of international media after remarks made publicly by Thailand's Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej on the 30th April 2008. Unlike unfounded rumors and baseless worries that the Organization was created in order to increase rice price like OPEC, the objectives of OREC are in fact very humane, noble and reasonable.

Some indications on the organisations' programmatic future may also be found in the statements of one of its first promoters, Mr. Ng Van T (poet Tan Van). In early 2005 he wrote an article in which he promoted the Ideology of Rice Power in Vietnamese language Manh V Gao (Rice Power). He paid special attention to the hardship of peasants in rice producing and exporting countries facing price pressures from international buyers. In another article appearing in the Vietnamese newspaper Saigon Tiep Thi on May 30, 2007 he suggested Vietnam and other rice exporting countries to establish an organization called OREC in order to make rice price "reasonable" and supply stable, thus creating a win-win situation for both buyers and producers. The alternative would discourage farmers from production, thus causing future shortage. The same article appeared again in various Vietnamese newspapers and websites on March 30, 2008. Ng Van T also promoted the idea of using a portion of profits from rice trade to fight food shortages in poor areas, a form of food redistribution that make the world more fair and just.

Unlike what people suspected of an OPEC cartel that tries to squeeze from people's pocket for their food, the OREC that Mr. Ngo Van Tan (poet Tan Van) initiated would invite all the 21 rice exporting countries worldwide to organize themselves into an alliance to help increase rice production efficiency and prevent human starvation that might happen in the future with the unforeseen climate changes and disasters. Those countries are:

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'I have talked with Myanmar and invited them to join the rice exporting countries cartel, which will include Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, to form the group,' Samak told reporters.

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Myanmar's Prime Minister General Thein Sein, in Thailand for an official visit, has agreed to join the group, even though the military-ruled nation is not currently a large rice exporter, he said. 'Thailand will help them in terms of technical support to improve their production for export,' Samak said. Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia have also agreed to join, and Thai Foreign Minister Noppadon Pattama said OREC should begin meeting soon. Thailand is the world's largest rice exporter, shipping an estimated 9.5 million tonnes of rice overseas last year.

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Milled Rice Exports by Country in 1000 MT

[Map](http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?commodity=milled-rice&graph=exports&display=map)

Switch to: [Growth Rate](http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?commodity=milled-rice&graph=exports-growth-rate)

| Rank | Country | Exports (1000 MT) |
|------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | India | 9,750.00 |
| 2 | Vietnam | 7,700.00 |
| 3 | Thailand | 6,500.00 |
| 4 | Pakistan | 4,000.00 |
| 5 | United States | 3,282.00 |
| 6 | Cambodia | 950.00 |
| 7 | Egypt | 850.00 |

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rice importing regions from around the world.</p> <h3 class="dynamic" style="line-height:
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million tons (41% of global rice imports) <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial,
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million tons (12.2%) <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif;
font-size: 12px;">North and Central America ◆ 2.3 million tons (8.1%) <li style="line-height:
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(3.9%). <p style="widows: 2; text-transform: none; background-color: #ffffff;
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letter-spacing: normal; color: #393939; word-spacing: 0px; -webkit-text-size-adjust: auto;
-webkit-text-stroke-width: 0px;">Even though Asia farms more than 91% of the global rice
harvest, Far Eastern nations import more rice than any other continent.</p> <h3
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class="dynamic" style="line-height: normal; widows: 2; text-transform: none; background-color: #ffffff; font-variant: normal; font-style: normal; text-indent: 0px; margin: 0px; outline-width: 0px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; white-space: normal; orphans: 2; letter-spacing: normal; color: #393939; font-size: 14px; word-spacing: 0px; -webkit-text-size-adjust: auto; -webkit-text-stroke-width: 0px; border-image: initial; border: 0px; padding: 0px;"><h3>Top Rice Importers by Country</h3> <table id="horizontal-bar-chart" style="font-size: smaller; color: #000000; font-family: Arial, Verdana, Helvetica, sans-serif;" border="0"> <tr> <th>Rank</th><th align="left">Country</th><th colspan="2" align="left">Imports (1000 MT)</th> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">1</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=cn&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">China</a></td> <td align="right">2,400.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">2</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=ng&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Nigeria</a></td> <td align="right">2,300.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">3</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=ir&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Iran, Islamic Republic Of</a></td> <td align="right">1,950.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">4</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=ph&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Philippines</a></td> <td align="right">1,500.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">5</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=id&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Indonesia</a></td> <td align="right">1,450.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">6</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=eu&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">EU-27</a></td> <td align="right">1,400.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">7</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=iq&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Iraq</a></td> <td align="right">1,350.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">8</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=sa&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Saudi Arabia</a></td> <td align="right">1,225.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">9</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=my&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imports">Malaysia</a></td> <td align="right">1,050.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">10</td> <td><a href="http://www.indexmundi.com/agriculture/?country=za&commodity=milled-rice&graph=imp

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|                        |      |                                                                                       |
|------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 7.00 |    |
| Belarus                | 7.00 |    |
| Argentina              | 5.00 |    |
| Cambodia               | 5.00 |    |
| Zambia                 | 5.00 |    |
| Malawi                 | 5.00 |   |
| Paraguay               | 2.00 |  |
| Armenia                | 1.00 |  |

### Fastest-growing Rice Imports by Country

Rice deliveries to the following 10 countries rose the fastest in 2004 from the prior year.

- Sri Lanka ♦ 240,700 tons (up 597.3% in 2004)
- China ♦ 928,210 tons (up 129.4%)

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font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Benin ♦ 476,490 tons (up 124.8%)</li>  
<li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Saudi Arabia ♦ 1.2 million tons (up 78%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Oman ♦ 149,830 tons (up 64.5%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Kuwait ♦ 150,620 tons (up 54.2%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">South Korea ♦ 209,320 tons (up 46%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Malaysia ♦ 523,660 tons (up 42.1%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">United Arab Emirates ♦ 717,710 tons (up 28.6%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Canada ♦ 334,320 tons (up 26.3%).</li> </ol> <h3 class="dynamic" style="line-height: normal; widows: 2; text-transform: none; background-color: #ffffff; font-variant: normal; font-style: normal; text-indent: 0px; margin: 0px; outline-width: 0px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; white-space: normal; orphans: 2; letter-spacing: normal; color: #393939; font-size: 14px; word-spacing: 0px; -webkit-text-size-adjust: auto; -webkit-text-stroke-width: 0px; border-image: initial; border: 0px; padding: 0px;">Fastest-declining Rice Imports by Country</h3> <p style="widows: 2; text-transform: none; background-color: #ffffff; text-indent: 0px; font: 14px/21px Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; white-space: normal; orphans: 2; letter-spacing: normal; color: #393939; word-spacing: 0px; -webkit-text-size-adjust: auto; -webkit-text-stroke-width: 0px;">The 10 nations below decreased their milled rice imports the most in 2004.</p> <ol style="widows: 2; text-transform: none; background-color: #ffffff; text-indent: 0px; font: 12px Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; white-space: normal; orphans: 2; letter-spacing: normal; color: #393939; word-spacing: 0px; -webkit-text-size-adjust: auto; -webkit-text-stroke-width: 0px;"> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Indonesia ♦ 390,830 tons (down 76% in 2004)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Bangladesh ♦ 991,810 tons (down 20.7%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Brazil ♦ 852,080 tons (down 20.1%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Nigeria ♦ 1.4 million tons (down 12.6%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">North Korea ♦ 702,000 tons (down 12.5%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Mexico ♦ 459,210 tons (down 8.6%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Senegal ♦ 822,550 tons (down 7.6%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Japan ♦ 662,020 tons (down 6.2%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">South Africa ♦ 744,840 tons (down 5.8%)</li> <li style="line-height: 17px; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-size: 12px;">Russia (Europe) ♦ 618,460 tons (down 4.1%).</li> </ol> <p><br /><br /><br /><img src="http://chart.apis.google.com/chart?cht=Rice,+Thailand,+5%+price+chart&chts=000000,12&chs=700x420&chf=bg,s,ffffff|c,s,ffffff&chxt=x,y&chxl=0:|2000|2001|2002|2003|2004|2005|2006|2007|2008|2009|2010|1:|1:|131.0|163.8|349.6|535.4|721.2|907.0&cht=lc&chd=t:27,27,25,24,22,22,21,21,20,21,20,20,20,20,19,18,18,19,19,19,19,19,19,20,21,22,21,21,22,22,22,21,21,21,21,21,22,22,22,21,22,22,22,21,22,22,21,22,23,24,26,27,26,25,25,26,26,27,29,31,32,32,32,33,32,31,31,31,31,32,31,31,32,33,33,33,34,34,35,34,34,33,33,34,35,35,35,35,35,36,36,36,36,36,38,40,41,51,65,100,99,85,81,76,75,67,61,59,64,65,65,61,58,63,63,58,57,54,60,65,63,59,56&chdl=(

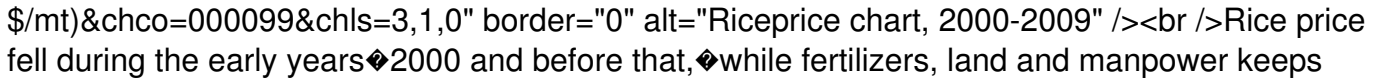


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 Rice price fell during the early years 2000 and before that, while fertilizers, land and manpower keeps increasing result loss to farmers

**Investing in the future**

Thanks to profit farmers can modernize their cultivation with machinery, newly developed seeds, fertilizer and feel happy to concentrate in producing rice to feed the world instead of worrying for their future.

BANGKOK (Thomson Financial) April 30, 2008- Thailand has agreed in principle to form a rice price-fixing cartel with Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia as costs of the staple grain surge, Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej said on Wednesday. The grouping of nations would be called the

**Organisation of Rice Exporting Countries (OREC)**

Phnom Penh (Agencies) - Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Monday that the Opec-style rice cartel proposed by Thailand would ensure global food security, not increase hunger and poverty as critics say. Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej said last week there was an agreement in principle to form what he calls Organisation of Rice Exporting Countries by Burma, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. The Mekong-region nations hope they can run a group similar to the oil cartel Opec. Hun Sen said during a university graduation ceremony in Phnom Penh that the cartel would never try to manipulate markets like Opec. It would only seek to ensure global food security. "We will not only ensure food security in each of our own countries, but will help solve the entire problem of (food) shortages across the region and the world," Hun Sen said. "When there are shortages, we will not stockpile the rice or increase prices," the premier said. "We really want to help ensure food security."

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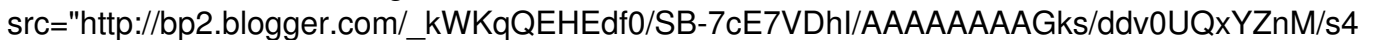
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The Asian Development Bank said it hated the idea. Senior Philippines officials have blasted the proposal as "anti-poor", designed to increase hunger and poverty. Hun Sen urged them to stop. "The formation of the organisation is not meant to strangle the throats of countries that do not have rice," he said. The five proposed members of the cartel will discuss the organisation at regional talks in October, Hun Sen said, adding that the Mekong river nations would export up to 15 million tonnes of rice a year - 10 million by Thailand.

Hun Sen last week appealed to farmers to grow more rice in order to profit from the increased global food crisis



[http://bp2.blogger.com/\\_kWKqQEHEdf0/SB-7cE7VDhI/AAAAAAAGks/ddv0UQxYZnM/s400/Hun%2BSen%2Bbig%2Bmouth.jpg](http://bp2.blogger.com/_kWKqQEHEdf0/SB-7cE7VDhI/AAAAAAAGks/ddv0UQxYZnM/s400/Hun%2BSen%2Bbig%2Bmouth.jpg) border="0" /><br /></span><br /><strong>RICE CARTEL AIMS FOR COMMON PRICE: CAMBODIAN MINISTER</strong></p> <p></p>

<div id="tagindexcolumn"><a href="http://null/continents/sendcard.php"><img alt="Image of Working the ricefields in the Central Highlands, Vietnam" title="Working the ricefields in the Central Highlands, Vietnam" width="831" height="438" /></a></div>

<p style="text-align: justify;">We all need to do our part to reduce poverty, prevent further environmental erosion, and ensure a prosperous future for the billions of people in Asia's rice societies. Contributing to the Asia Rice Foundation is to invest in a healthy work force and a green environment.<br /><br />What you do today will make a difference in Asia's tomorrow. Show you care<br /></p>

<p class="qa-container" style="text-align: justify; line-height: 15.6pt; margin: 0cm 0cm 0pt;"><span style="font-family: &quot;Tahoma&quot;;&quot;sans-serif&quot;; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt; mso-fareast-font-family: 'Times New Roman'; mso-fareast-language: EN-CA;">This organization is unique and has common aim to increase rice production and exportation. Thanks to it, rice supply and demand will harmonize, price will be stabilized and beneficial to both consumers and producers. As you know that peasants in exporting countries have suffered with unreasonably low price in the past, many peasants in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia lived in poverty for their hard work, had to sell their daughters in order to survive because rice farming was a money losing business that made many of them in debt lifetime! In the meantime, low rice price was a factor in wasting this essential product in many cities especially in North America if you go to a Chinese restaurant, a lot of cooked rice (often overserved) left over by customers was thrown in garbage. In the meantime people in Asia and Africa starved because of rice shortage.</span></p>

<p class="qa-container" style="text-align: justify; line-height: 15.6pt; margin: 0cm 0cm 0pt;"><span style="font-family: &quot;Tahoma&quot;;&quot;sans-serif&quot;; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt; mso-fareast-font-family: 'Times New Roman'; mso-fareast-language: EN-CA;">Thanks to reasonable price, rice peasants can benefit and therefore continue to produce actively instead of quitting the farm, thus guarantee undisrupted

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supplies. As a humanitarian person by nature, I also suggested that those farmers and their exporting countries reserve a portion of profit to pool together to help subsidize poor people worldwide so they can afford this essential product.◆<br /></span></p> <p class="MsoNormal" style="text-align: justify; margin: 0cm 0cm 10pt;"><strong>Prime Minister Hun Sen: Orec can solve world hunger</strong><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"></span></p> <p>◆</p> <p>◆</p> <div style="text-align: justify;"><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">PHNOM PENH</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"> - An organization of rice exporting countries (OREC) including </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Thailand</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">, </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Cambodia</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">, </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Vietnam</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">, </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Laos</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"> and </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Myanmar</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"> will aim to set common price for their rice exports for more benefits </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">of their own and the world, national media said on Monday. </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">A Common price for rice will enhance </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">OREC's capability to produce rice, provide a chance to help settle the world food crisis and </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">increase the incomes of farmers, Chinese-language newspaper the Commercial News quoted </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Cambodian Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Chan Sarun as telling a rural products exhibition </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">in the southern </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">province</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"> of </span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt">Takeo</span><span style="font-family: Tahoma; color: #333333; font-size: 9pt"> on Sunday. </span></div> <p>◆</p> <h4 style="text-align: center;">Rice in 54 other countries</h4> <div style="text-align: center;"> <ul> <li><span style="font-family: Verdana, Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="afghanistan.asp"><strong>Afghanistan</strong></a></span> </li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="argentina.asp"><strong>Argentina</strong></a></span> </li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="australia.asp"><strong>Australia</strong></a></span> </li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="bhutan.asp"><strong>Bhutan</strong></a></span> </li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="bolivia.asp"><strong>Bolivia</strong></a></span> </li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="burkina%20faso.asp"><strong>Burkina Faso </strong></a></span></li> <li><span style="color: #006699; font-size: x-small;"><a href="cambodia.asp"><strong>Cambodia</strong></a></span> </li> </ul>

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**Rice** **for Life**

For more than half of humanity, rice is life. It is the grain that has shaped the cultures, diets, and economies of billions of people in Asia. For them, life without rice is simply unthinkable.

**Rice reality**

Between now and 2020, 1.2 billion new rice consumers will be added in Asia. Feeding these people will require the greatest effort in the history of agriculture: rice production must be increased by one third from today's 320 million tons to 420 million tons. Farmers will have to grow an extra 3.7 million tons every year at the very time that rice land is decreasing and the remaining fields seem to be wearing out.

Today, there is barely enough rice for everyone. And in some places, because of political and economic turmoil, there is not enough and people are going hungry.

What about tomorrow?

If we do not begin to respond to today's cries for help, Asia's future will be bleak.

**Environmental woes**

Growing more and more rice from less and less land, however, may simply not be sustainable. Chemical pesticides are already polluting the lakes, rivers, and groundwater. Genetic biodiversity is eroding, salinity is encroaching farther inland, and there is less water for irrigation. Air and water pollution are already problems in many places.

What kind of environment will our children inherit?

**Rhythm of life**

Grown in Asia for at least 10,000 years, rice has richly influenced the cultures and lives of billions of people. In the old societies of Asia, rice dictates the rhythm of life. It is the grain that links Heaven and Earth, gods and mortals. Throughout the region, rice dominates customs, beliefs, rituals, and celebrations.

But as societies become affluent, they are slowly becoming less attached to rice. And the death of an elder often means the loss of age-old traditions and legends.

Who will preserve the priceless rice heritage?

Teetering on the edge

**The Asia Rice**

[The Asia Rice](mailto:%20asiarice@laguna.net)

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<http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/ajpa/pdf/issue7/5%20Matthew%20Brummer%20Op-Ed.pdf>

<http://www.usarice.com/about/index.html>