Gathering Stories from the Sky

Stories are being gathered in an Inter-national Year of Astronomy 2009 Projecct, Asian Myths and Legends of Stars and the Universe, generally called Stars of Asia.

Fifteen countries are contributing to the collection. They are Australia, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Pacific Islands, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. The astro-nomers in charge of the effort are planning to publish a book of legends next year. "The legends explain the astronomical pheno-menon by belief and imagination. This project is a great lesson for people who want to learn more about both astronomy and culture". (*Physics Today*, Sept., 2009, p.29).